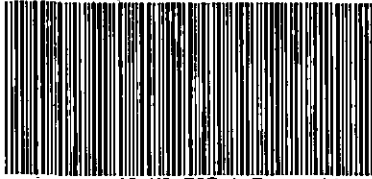


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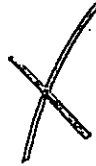
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SECTION 5

SERIALS JUN 5, 1968-AUG 31, 1968



62-HQ-587-A-5



ADDED TO THIS FILE

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Class / Case #	Sub	Vol.	Serial #
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INVESTIGATION

SECTION 5

JUNE 15, 1968-AUG: 31, 1968

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UPI-71

(SIRHAN)

LOS ANGELES --SIRHAN B. SIRHAN'S TRIAL FOR THE SLAYING OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY WILL NOT BE POSTPONED JUST BECAUSE IT IS

SET TO BEGIN FIVE DAYS BEFORE THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

JUDGE RICHARD SCHAUER, WHO PRESIDES OVER THE CRIMINAL DEPARTMENT OF SUPERIOR COURT, REACTED THURSDAY TO A SUGGESTION THAT THE TRIAL BE CONTINUED UNTIL AFTER NOV. 5 BECAUSE FEELINGS RUN HIGH DURING A PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

SCHAUER SAID THE NOV. 1 TRIAL DATE WAS SPECIFICALLY SOUGHT BY SIRHAN'S ATTORNEY, RUSSELL E. PARSONS, AND WAS AGREED TO BY THE PROSECUTION.

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UPI-44

(SIRHAN)

LOS ANGELES --THE MAN ACCUSED OF KILLING SEN. ROBERT F KENNEDY IS STILL "NERVOUS" BUT NO LONGER COMPLAINS OF INSOMNIA, HIS ATTORNEY SAID FRIDAY.

RUSSELL E. PARSONS SAID HE SPENT "THE BETTER PART OF TWO DAYS" THIS WEEK WITH SIRHAN B. SIRHAN, 24, THE JORDANIAN EMIGRANT CHARGED WITH MURDER IN THE SENATOR'S ASSASSINATION JUNE 5.

THE TRIAL IS SCHEDULED TO START NOV. 1.

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Sirhan Still 'Nervous,' Lawyer Says

LOS ANGELES (UPI)—The man accused of killing Sen. Robert F. Kennedy is still "nervous" but no longer complains of insomnia, according to his attorney.

Russell E. Parsons yesterday said he spent "the better part of two days" this week with Sirhan B. Sirhan, 24, the Jordanian immigrant charged with murder in the senator's assassination June 5. The trial is scheduled to start Nov. 1.

The Washington Post _____
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 The Evening Star (Washington) **A-2**
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 The Sun (Baltimore) _____
 The Daily World _____
 The New Leader _____
 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The National Observer _____
 People's World _____
 Examiner (Washington) _____

Date AUG 24 1968

TOP CLIPPING
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 FROM WASH. CAPITAL NEWS
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SIRHAN 8/3 NX

DAY LD

LOS ANGELES (UPI)--THE MAN ACCUSED OF ASSASSINATING SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY BEFORE TWO DOZEN WITNESSES HAS FOLLOWED A TIME TESTED RULE OF CRIMINAL DEFENSE--NEVER PLEAD GUILTY.

COOL AND OCCASIONALLY SMILING DURING A 22-MINUTE COURT APPEARANCE FRIDAY, SIRHAN B. SIRHAN SAID "NOT GUILTY" IN A CLEAR FIRM VOICE TO ANSWER THE CHARGE OF FATALLY SHOOTING THE BROTHER OF THE LATE PRESIDENT.

SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE RICHARD B. SCHAUER SET THE 24-YEAR-OLD JORDANIAN'S TRIAL FOR NOV. 1. SIRHAN WAS ORDERED TO RETURN TO HIS HEAVILY FORTIFIED "PRIVATE COURTROOM" IN THE HALL OF JUSTICE OCT. 4, WHEN SCHAUER APPOINTS A JUDGE FOR THE TRIAL.

SIRHAN'S ATTORNEY, RUSSELL B. PARSONS, DID NOT HAVE HIS CLIENT ENTER A PLEA OF "NOT GUILTY BY REASON OF INSANITY" AS MANY OBSERVERS HAD EXPECTED. HOWEVER, THE ATTORNEY KEPT OPEN HIS OPTION TO OFFER SUCH A PLEA AT A LATER TIME.

IN A NEWS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING THE HEARING, PARSONS INDICATED HE WILL TRY TO SHOW THE FORMER RACE TRACK EXERCISE BOY WAS NOT GUILTY OF PREMEDITATION OF MALICE IN SHOOTING THE NEW YORK SENATOR THE NIGHT OF KENNEDY'S VICTORY IN THE CALIFORNIA PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY.

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"THIS DEFENSE WILL PERMIT US TO SHOW THE WHAT AND WHY OF THE CASE," THE ATTORNEY SAID. "THOSE ARE THE REAL ISSUES. IF THIS IS THE MAN, DID HE DO IT? WHAT PROMPTED HIM? WHY DID HE DO IT? IS HE RESPONSIBLE?"

CALIFORNIA LAW DEFINES FIRST DEGREE MURDER--WHICH CARRIES THE DEATH PENALTY--AS MURDER COMMITTED "WITH MALICE AFORETHOUGHT." IF PARSONS CAN SHOW THE CRIME WAS NOT PREMEDITATED, A JURY MIGHT FIND SIRHAN GUILTY OF SECOND DEGREE MURDER, CARRYING A SENTENCE OF FIVE YEARS TO LIFE. IF THE ATTORNEY COULD PROVE LACK OF MALICE, IT WOULD OPEN THE DOOR TO A MANSLAUGHTER CONVICTION. THE SENTENCE FOR THAT IS 1 TO 5 YEARS.

PARSONS HINTED HE MAY BRING UP SIRHAN'S EARLY LIFE IN HIS WAR-TORN NATIVE JORDAN AT THE TRIAL. "IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO TAKE DEPOSITIONS IN THE OLD COUNTRY," THE ATTORNEY SAID.

SIRHAN'S MOTHER, MRS. MARY SIRHAN, AND HIS THREE BROTHERS, ADEL, SHARIF AND SAIDALLAH WERE PRESENT IN THE COURTROOM. SIRHAN GAVE NO SIGN HE WAS AWARE OF THEIR PRESENCE.

AT TIMES DURING THE SESSION HE REACHED OUT AND GRASPED PARSONS' HAND. THE ATTORNEY SAID SIRHAN DID THIS "BECAUSE HE RELIES ON ME, LOOKS ON ME AS AN ADVISER."

PARSONS HAD SIRHAN EXAMINED BY TWO COURT-APPOINTED DEFENSE PSYCHIATRISTS. THE LAWYER SAID HIS FAILURE TO ENTER AN INSANITY PLEA FRIDAY HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE REPORTS THEY HAD GIVEN HIM. ELECTRIC TESTS OF SIRHAN'S BRAIN WAVES REQUESTED BY PARSONS STILL HAVE NOT BEEN CARRIED OUT.

ASKED WHETHER SIRHAN WOULD HAVE OBJECTED TO AN INSANITY PLEA PARSONS REPLIED: "HE LISTENS TO ME AND ACCEPTS MY ADVICE."

PARSONS SAID HE IS CONSIDERING THE POSSIBILITY OF ARGUING THAT SIRHAN SUFFERED FROM DIMINISHED MENTAL FACILITIES, WITHOUT ACTUALLY BEING INSANE.

RH240AED

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

THREE MONTHS TO SEE WHY?

Parsons Leaves Sirhan Plea Open To Change

Russell Parsons, the man defending Sirhan B. Sirhan against charges he shot and killed Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, has three months to determine "why—if this is the man—did he do it."

Although his client, smiling and poised, pleaded "not guilty" in an armored courtroom in County Jail yesterday, Parsons kept the door open to a possible change of plea to not guilty by reason of insanity or partial insanity.

The veteran attorney talked to the press after a 22-minute hearing at which Judge Richard Schauer set the trial date for Nov. 1 and then denied a prosecution request to revoke or modify a court order restricting publicity on the case.

Judge Schauer, however, did not name the trial judge or identify the courtroom in which the historic trial will take place. He reserved this information for an Oct. 4 public hearing in Superior Court.

Sirhan, who spoke only 10 words during yesterday's hearing, also pleaded innocent to charges he assaulted "with intent to murder five other persons who were wounded by gunfire in the Ambassador Hotel corridor in which Kennedy was fatally shot."

The motion to ease up on publicity restrictions was submitted by District Attorney Evelle J. Younger, who said "we should let the people know as much as possible about the way the government is performing, including judges, the district attorney" and others.

He said it was "wrong" to assume that all publicity is bad and that attention given any matter in a criminal case necessarily means prejudice.

Parsons told newsmen he has been researching the Arab-Israeli war and the boyhood of Sirhan in what is now Israeli-occupied Jordan.

"Why—if this is the man—did he do it?" Parsons asked. "Was he able to formulate opinions? What are the factors? What is his condition. He's an Arab, you know. They're so different from us."

Parsons said Sirhan's boyhood "might have colored his whole life. What were the conditions under which he lived? Was a bomb ever dropped near him?"

Parsons continued to indicate Sirhan's mental condition would be a vital factor in his defense plans. He said brain wave tests have not been made yet and that he is continuing his study of reports by psychiatrists who examined Sirhan.

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Mr. Trotter _____
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Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

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A-4 Herald-Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 8/3/68
Edition: 8 Star
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character:
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Classification: LA56-156
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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Sirhan Sirhan, accused slayer of the late Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, and his attorney, Russell Parsons, are surrounded by guards as they leave the courtroom where a "not guilty" plea was submitted. Parsons kept the door open to a possible change of plea to "Insanity."

At yesterday's hearing, Sirhan said "Yes, sir" twice—once to a question about his name and again when he assured the judge he personally waived his right to trial within 60 days of his arraignment. Moments earlier, his answer to the judge's question about a speedy trial was answered with: "We waive that right." The only other words he spoke were "not guilty" to the charges of murder and assault with intent to commit murder.

The courtroom on the 13th floor of the Hall of Justice was marked with the same tight security precautions county officials have imposed since Sirhan was subdued and arrested moments after the June 5 shooting.

The heavily guarded Sirhan smiled often and appeared pleased with the proceedings. But he did not appear to take

notice of his mother and three brothers who sat in the courtroom.

Parsons said he was concerned with Sirhan's mental capacity prior to the Kennedy shooting and his subsequent behavior.

"You know," he said, "people sometimes lose their minds very suddenly. If a man is insane at the time of the trial you can't try him."

He pictured Sirhan as a man with a "nervous mentality. He relies on me. He gets on his knees and looks up in my face and talks to me like a baby.

"I haven't seen any evidence yet of any malice or premeditation," Parsons said. "I don't believe he realizes what has happened."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Sirhan Enters Not Guilty Plea; Trial to Be Nov. 1

**Attorney Indicates Lack
of Malice May Be Issue
He Will Base Defense On**

BY RON EINSTOSS

Times Staff Writer

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan pleaded not guilty to murder Friday in the June 5 slaying of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

A trial date of Nov. 1 was set by Superior Judge Richard Schauer.

Although Sirhan entered a plea of innocence, it does not necessarily mean he is denying he committed the murder.

He is charged with murder, with malice aforethought.

A guilty plea would have been an admission of murder and could have resulted in the death penalty or life in prison if first degree.

The only way for a defendant to have a determination made of the degree of murder — unless one is specifically charged—is to be tried, either by a jury or a judge sitting without a jury.

Sirhan Chose a Trial

This apparently is what Sirhan did in the face of seemingly weighty eyewitness and circumstantial evidence against him.

At a press conference which followed the 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant's appearance in court, Russell E. Parsons, Sirhan's attorney, seemed to confirm this when he said:

"I haven't seen any evidence yet that he had any malice . . ."

Parsons also said a not guilty plea "permits us to show the what and why—what are the real issues—if he is the man, why did he do it."

Sirhan, as had been anticipated, chose not to enter a so-called double plea of not guilty and not guilty by reason of insanity. This could have required three trials.

The first, to determine whether he was guilty and the degree of guilt. A second, if convicted, to determine his sanity, and a final hearing, if convicted of first-degree murder, to fix the penalty.

Parsons still could, before the trial, legally add a plea of not guilty by reason of insanity.

The veteran criminal defense attorney explained out of court that by pleading not guilty, it does not mean that two court-appointed psychiatrists found that his client was legally sane.

However, he added that he has never entered only a single plea of not guilty when psychiatrists unanimously said a client of his was legally insane, that he did not know the difference between right and wrong or could not appreciate the nature and quality of his act.

Several Possibilities Open

With Sirhan pleading not guilty, if the prosecution is successful in showing that Sirhan fired the fatal shot, Parsons can seek to lower the degree of murder from first degree by:

1—Putting on evidence that the crime was not deliberate or premeditated which would make it second degree (punishable by five years to life in prison) or that there was no malice, which would make it manslaughter (a maximum of 15 years in prison).

2—Invoking the defense of diminished capacity, also known as partial insanity.

In using the latter defense Parsons would be attempting to show through psychiatric evidence that because of some mental disease or defect Sirhan could not form the specific intent, malice and premeditation required for the conviction of first-degree murder.

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Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
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Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-1 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 8/3/68

Edition: Home

Author: Ron Einstoss

Editor: Nick B. Williams

Title:

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Character:

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Classification: LA 56-156

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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This defense does not result in an exoneration, only in a reduction of the degree (to second or manslaughter), depending on the extent to which mental disease can be shown. Anticipating such a defense, Dist. Atty. Evelle J. Younger and his team of prosecutors has engaged Dr. Seymour Pollock as a psychiatric adviser.

Doctor Present

Dr. Pollock was present in court again Friday, observing Sirhan. He probably would be called as a witness to counter defense psychiatric testimony.

Sirhan, appearing in court for the fifth time, also pleaded not guilty to feloniously assaulting, with a deadly weapon and with intent to commit murder, five other persons wounded during the election night shooting spree at the Ambassador.

Judge Schauer withheld until Oct. 4 the naming of a judge to preside over the case.

That presumably will be Sirhan's next appearance in court unless Parsons makes legal motions, such, he said, as to suppress evidence he feels was improperly seized or makes attacks on the grand jury on the basis of some illegality.

He also could ask for a change of venue, but he indicated out of court that such would not be the case.

Parsons indicated that any such motions will be made at least 35 days prior to the trial.

Because a trial date of Nov. 1 is more than 60 days from the time Sirhan was indicted on June 7, Judge Schauer asked that he waive both his right to be tried within that period and his right to a speedy trial.

"We waive that right," Sirhan said in one of his longest responses since he has been appearing in court.

In pleading, Sirhan was emphatic.

Asked how he wished to plead, in a loud and clear voice, Sirhan said:

"Not guilty."

Parsons indicated in court that he wanted a late trial setting—"on or about Nov. 1"—because the attorney who will be assisting him is now engaged in another trial (he has never disclosed the name of that lawyer) and because "it may be necessary to take depositions in the old country," referring to Sirhan's birth place in the Middle East.

Younger, assisted in court by Dep. Dist. Attys. John Howard and David Fitts, said he would prefer, under ordinary circumstances, an earlier trial date.

But Younger indicated that he may also need more time because the prosecution will be bringing in witnesses from all over the country.

In any event, Younger said his office preferred "a surer trial date" rather than "a maybe date."

Parsons said later he did not see any reason why the case could not go to trial as scheduled, although that seldom happens in this county.

Request on Publicity

At the start of the 22½-minute court session Friday, Younger again asked that Judge Schauer vacate or modify a court order restricting publicity in the case.

Opposing the motion were Parsons and A. L. Wirin, chief counsel of the Southern California chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union. Wirin was allowed to appear as a "friend" of the court.

Judge Schauer denied Younger's request, stating that "nothing is more clear at this time than that this case demands an order restricting publicity."

As was the case two weeks ago, court again was convened in a special facility on the 13th floor of the Hall of Justice, just 50 feet from the isolated cell in which Sirhan is being held pending his trial.

Parsons opposed using the small 46 by 50-foot room for the trial.

Judge Schauer said he would select a courtroom on Oct. 4. It probably will be one of two courts in which criminal trials are regularly held on the eighth floor of the Hall of Justice.

At times, while court was in session, Sirhan held Parsons' hand.

At the press conference, Parsons explained that his client did so because "he relies on me . . . looks on me as an adviser."

"He took my hand and help," the attorney added. "Sometimes he even gets on his knees and talks to me."

Seated in the courtroom were four members of Sirhan's family, his mother, Mary, and three of his four brothers, Adel, Sharif and Saidallah.

Parsons, asked how Sirhan would have reacted to an insanity plea, said:

"He listens to me and accepts my advice," indicating that the decision on how to plead was made by Parsons.

But, he said, he (Parsons) might change his mind — "sudden things might develop — people

sometimes lose their mind very suddenly."

The attorney said he has not yet determined whether Sirhan will testify at the trial, explaining, "Sometimes you have to wait until the last minute to decide that."

Parsons would not comment on whether Sirhan has shown any sorrow or remorse for the death of Sen. Kennedy.

He also refused to discuss his trial strategy "because we would have to go into the evidence and I never do that, even when there is no court order."



AFTER PLEA—Sirhan B. Sirhan and his attorney, Russell E. Parsons, confer as deputies lead the accused assassin of Robert F. Kennedy to his cell.

Times photo

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Sirhan Trial Set; Attorney Retains Defense Option

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 3 (UPI) — The man accused of assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy before two dozen witnesses has followed a time tested rule of criminal defense — never plead guilty.

Cool and occasionally smiling during a 22-minute court appearance yesterday, Sirhan B. Sirhan, 24, said "not guilty" in a clear firm voice to answer the charge of fatally shooting the brother of the late President.

Superior Court Judge Richard B. Schauer set the Jordanian's trial for Nov. 1.

Sirhan's attorney, Russell B. Parsons, did not have his client enter a plea of "not guilty by reason of insanity" as many had expected. However, the attorney kept open his option to offer such a plea at a later time.

STRATEGY

After the hearing, Mr. Parsons indicated he will try to show the former race track exercise boy was not guilty of premeditation or malice in shooting the New York senator the night of his victory in the California presidential primary.

"This defense will permit us to show the what and why of the case," the attorney said. "Those are the real issues. If this is the man, did he do it? What prompted him? Why did he do it? Is he responsible?"

California law defines first degree murder — which carries the death penalty — as murder committed "with malice aforethought." If Mr. Parsons can show the crime was not premeditated, a jury might find Sirhan guilty of second degree murder, carrying a sentence of five years to life. If the attorney could prove lack of malice, it would open the door to a manslaughter conviction. The sentence for that is 1 to 5 years.

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51 AUG - 9 1968

Sirhan Pleads Not Guilty; Trial Nov. 1

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Sirhan B. Sirhan has pleaded not guilty to a charge of murdering Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Sirhan entered the plea in a 22-minute court appearance yesterday, and Superior Court Judge Richard B. Schauer set the 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant's trial for Nov. 1. Sirhan was ordered to return to his heavily fortified room in the Hall of Justice Oct. 4, when Schauer is to appoint a judge for the trial.

Sirhan's attorney, Russell B. Parsons, did not have his client enter a plea of "not guilty by reason of insanity" as many observers had expected. However, the attorney kept open his option to offer such a plea at a later time.

In a news conference after the hearing, Parsons indicated he will try to show Sirhan was not guilty of premeditation of malice in shooting the senator on the night Kennedy's victory in the California presidential primary.

"This defense will permit us to show the what and why of the case," the attorney said. "Those are the real issues. If this is the man, did he do it? What prompted him? Why did he do it? Is he responsible?"

California law defines first degree murder — which carries the death penalty — as murder committed "with malice aforethought."

If Parsons can show the crime was not premeditated, a jury might find Sirhan guilty of second-degree murder, carrying a sentence of five years to life. If the attorney could prove lack of malice, it would open the door to a manslaughter conviction. The sentence for that is 1 to 5 years.

Sirhan's mother, Mrs. Mary Sirhan, and his three brothers, Adel, Sharif and Saidallah were present in the courtroom yesterday.

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DATED AUG 3, 1968
FROM WASH. POST
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51 AUG - 9 1968

Innocence Plea Filed By Sirhan

By Ron Einstoss
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 2—Sirhan Bishara Sirhan pleaded not guilty today to murder in the June 5 slaying of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

A trial date of Nov. 1 was set by Superior Judge Richard Schauer.

Although Sirhan entered a plea of innocence, it does not necessarily mean he is denying his guilt.

He is charged with murder, with malice aforethought.

A guilty plea would have been an admission of first-degree murder—a wilful, deliberate and premeditated killing, with malice aforethought—which carries the death penalty or life in prison.

The only way for a defendant to have a determination made of the degree of murder—unless he specifically is charged with second-degree or manslaughter—is to be tried, either by a jury or a judge sitting without a jury.

This apparently is what Sirhan, in the face of seemingly weighty eyewitness and circumstantial evidence against him, did.

At a news conference that followed the 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant's appearance in court, Russell E. Parsons, Sirhan's attorney, seemed to confirm this when he said:

"I haven't seen any evidence yet that he (Sirhan) had any malice."

Parsons also said a not guilty plea "permits us to show the what and why what are the real issues."

Sirhan, as had been anticipated, chose not to enter a double plea of guilty and not guilty by reason of insanity. This case has required three trials. First, to determine whether he was guilty and the degree of guilt. A second, if convicted of first-degree murder, to determine the penalty and a final hearing (if convicted) to determine his sanity.

Parsons still could later (before the trial) legally add a plea of not guilty by reason of insanity.

The veteran defense attorney explained out of court that by pleading not guilty, it does not mean that two court-appointed psychiatrists found that his client was legally sane.

However, he added that he has never entered only a single plea of not guilty when psychiatrists unanimously said a client of his was legally insane.

If the prosecution is successful in showing that Sirhan fired the fatal shot, Parsons can seek to lower the degree of murder from first degree by:

1—Putting on evidence that the crime was not deliberate or premeditated, which would make it second degree (punishable by five years to life in prison) or that there was no malice that would make it manslaughter (a maximum of 15 years in prison).

2—Invoking the defense of diminished capacity, also known as partial insanity.

In using the latter defense Parsons would be attempting to show through psychiatric evidence that because of some mental disease or defect Sirhan could not form the specific intent, malice, and premeditation required for the conviction of first-degree murder.

This defense does not result in an exoneration, only in a reduction of the degree (to second or manslaughter), depending on the extent to which mental disease can be shown.

Sirhan, appearing in court for the fifth time, also pleaded not guilty to feloniously assaulting five other persons wounded during the election night shooting spree at the Ambassador Hotel.

Judge Schauer withheld until Oct. 4 the naming of a judge to preside over the case.

At times, Sirhan held Parsons' hand. At the news conference, Parsons explained that his client did so because "he relies on me... looks on me as an adviser. He took my hand and held it. Sometimes he even gets on his knees and takes my hand."

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Date AUG 3 1968

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145 AUG 6 1968



Associated Press

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan listens to his attorney, Russell E. Parsons, as they leave Superior Court in Los Angeles, where

Sirhan pleaded not guilty to the charge of murdering Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. A trial date was set for Nov. 1.

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Younger Asks More Freedom Of Speech in Sirhan Case

District Attorney Evelle Younger's office today will request that more freedom of speech be given those involved in the Sirhan B. Sirhan investigation.

Sirhan, 24, is accused as the slayer of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy and the wounding of five others. He appeared in a heavily guarded courtroom this morning to plead his innocence or guilt.

The motion, to be filed by Younger's office at the hearing, seeks to void or modify a court order issued June 7, at Sirhan's first Superior Court appearance. That order, issued by Superior Court Judge Arthur L. Alarcon, specified that no one remotely connected with the case or having knowledge of the investigation

could make public statements concerning the matter.

The newest motion, signed by Younger, states "The prosecution initiates this argument to advocate, as important and paramount, the right of fair disclosure."

A particularly pointed paragraph in the proposed change authorizes law enforcement agencies the right to discredit people who might attempt to contend they are integral parts of the case; when in fact they are merely seeking publicity or notoriety.

"The right of free speech is a means...and free press is a necessity...both vital, viable, and inseparable to the public interest," Younger said.

The district attorney said the order "is in violation of the

(U.S.) Constitutional guarantee of free speech and indirectly violates the constitutional right of freedom of the press."

The eleven-page brief claims Alarcon's "order assumes any comment must be prejudicial.

"A court must have real and substantial reasons to justify any abridgement of Constitutional guarantees," the brief adds.

Another challenge brought forth by Younger is that this order is violative of sound public policy because it keeps from the public theories the public has a right to know.

The motion quotes the State Constitution: "Every citizen may freely speak, write, and publish his sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for those rights."

In a four-page brief already filed with Superior Court Judge Richard Schauer, who will hear the motion, defense attorney Russell B. Parsons unequivocally opposes any modification or revocation of the June 7 order.

Parsons states: "The defendant is about to enter a plea."

"This is the third killing of a prominent person in recent

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-1 Herald-Examiner
—Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 8/2/68
 Edition: 8 Star
 Author:
 Editor: Donald Goodenow
 Title:

Kensalt

Character:

or

Classification: LA 56-156

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

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times in the United States,
Namely:

"A President of the United States.

"His brother (Robert F. Kennedy), a U. S. Senator while seeking to be elected president of the U. S." Parsons underscored the words "his brother."

The third person mentioned is "Mr. Martin Luther King, a controversial man and receiver of the peace medal or prize."

Parsons points to unusual precautions to protect the defendant and quotes a member of Younger's staff as saying "that in this (Sirhan) case we will seek the death penalty," and he contends "this alone could prejudice the case."

In lieu of accepting Parsons' objections and in place of full revocation of the order, Younger has offered an alternative. In a three-page proposal Younger seeks to have the court order read:

"There is presently existing a broad, inclusive order of this court directed toward all parties remotely connected with this case and directing said parties to refrain from making any statements relevant to this case with minor enumerated exceptions.

"There is in this order no statement of foundational fact necessitating the order, other than the conclusion that any publicity may result in prejudice to the right of a fair trial."

"After the issuance of the order on June 7, a review of the publicity attending this case failed to demonstrate a necessity for such an order."

"In the alternative, the district attorney respectfully requests that the court consider a modification of the existing order by removing impartial, improperly designated persons and further limiting the categories of prohibited statements."

Younger's proposed order will be taken under consideration by Superior Court Judge Schauer.

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Sirhan Pleads Not Guilty, Trial Is Set for Nov. 4

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Sirhan Bishara Sirhan pleaded not guilty today to a charge he murdered Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. His trial was set for Nov. 1.

The 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant said only 10 words during a 22-minute hearing in denying his guilt and approving a trial date later than guaranteed by his constitutional right for a "speedy trial" within 60 days after arraignment.

Sirhan also pleaded not guilty to five counts of assault with intent to commit murder. Five bystanders were shot June 5 when Kennedy was fatally wounded after winning the California Democratic presidential primary. They have recovered.

Two previous hearings for plea were continued pending psychiatric examination by two defense experts.

Sirhan wore an open-necked, button-down light blue shirt and dark slacks for his appearance today in a heavily guarded courtroom on the 13th floor of the Hall of Justice. His mother and three brothers, Adel, Sharif and Saidallah, were in the small spectator section.

His attorney, Russell E. Parsons, asked for a trial date no sooner than Nov. 1, saying an attorney who will assist him is involved in another case.

Superior Court Judge Richard A. Schauer said he will name a trial judge Oct. 4.

Sirhan then was returned to his cell, only steps from the courtroom.

Earlier, the judge refused a request from Dist. Atty. Evelle J. Younger to modify an order sharply restricting public statements about the case by public officials, attorney and witness.

Younger argued that "where it is possible, we believe that people should know as much as possible about what their government is doing."

The Washington Post
 Times Herald
 The Washington Daily News
 The Evening Star (Washington)
 The Sunday Star (Washington)
 Daily News (New York)
 Sunday News (New York)
 New York Post
 The New York Times
 The Sun (Baltimore)
 The Daily World
 The New Leader
 The Wall Street Journal
 The National Observer
 People's World
 Examiner (Washington)

Date AUG 2 1968

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54 AUG - 9 1968

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6-10-68

Stacy

Kennedy

UPI-88

(SIRHAN)

LOS ANGELES--SIRHAN B. SIRHAN ENTERED A STRAIGHT PLEA OF INNOCENT TODAY TO THE MURDER OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, WHOSE FATAL SHOOTING TOOK PLACE IN THE PRESENCE OF DOZENS OF EYE WITNESSES.

CALM AND AT TIMES SMILING, THE 24-YEAR-OLD SIRHAN REPLIED IN A CLEAR AND FIRM VOICE, "NOT GUILTY," WHEN HE WAS ASKED HOW HE PLEADED TO THE SLAYING OF THE BROTHER OF THE LATE PRESIDENT.

SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE RICHARD SCHAUER SET THE TRIAL DATE FOR FRIDAY, NOV. 1.

AFTER SIRHAN ENTERED HIS PLEA OF INNOCENT, JUDGE SCHAUER ASKED IF THAT WERE THE ONLY PLEA AND DEFENSE ATTORNEY RUSSELL PARSONS SAID, "YES, YOUR HONOR."

TWO COURT-APPOINTED PSYCHIATRISTS HAD EXAMINED SIRHAN AND MADE THEIR FINDINGS AVAILABLE TO THE DEFENSE BUT PARSONS AND THE YOUNG JORDANIAN IMMIGRANT DECIDED AGAINST THE POSSIBLE PLEA OF INNOCENT BY REASON OF INSANITY.

PARSONS ASKED THAT THE TRIAL BE POSTPONED UNTIL NOVEMBER SO THAT HE COULD TALK TO PROSPECTIVE WITNESSES "FROM THE OLD COUNTRY" AND ALSO TO AWAIT THE ENTRANCE OF ANOTHER ATTORNEY INTO THE CASE AS A CO-DEFENSE COUNSEL. HE DID NOT IDENTIFY THE SECOND ATTORNEY.

JUDGE SCHAUER ASKED SIRHAN IF HE WERE WILLING TO WAIVE HIS CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS TO A SPEEDY TRIAL WITHIN 60 DAYS OF INDICTMENT.

SIRHAN ALSO PLEADED INNOCENT TO ASSAULT WITH A DEADLY WEAPON CHARGES IN CONNECTION WITH THE WOUNDING OF FIVE OTHER PERSONS WHEN THE SENATOR WAS SHOT JUNE 5.

SIRHAN WHISPERED BRIEFLY WITH PARSONS AND THEN SAID, "WE WAIVE THAT RIGHT."

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51 AUG-9 1968

"DO YOU PERSONALLY GIVE UP THAT RIGHT?" SCHAUER ASKED.

"YES SIR," SIRHAN SAID.

THE ACCUSED ASSASSIN WAS DRESSED IN A LIGHT BLUE BUTTON-DOWN SHIRT OPEN AT THE COLLAR WITH BLACK TROUSERS AND HE MOVED QUICKLY AND SPRITELY TO HIS CHAIR SHOWING NO SIGNS OF THE ANKLE INJURY THAT HAD MARKED HIS PREVIOUS APPEARANCES.

HIS MOTHER, MRS. MARY SIRHAN AND THREE OF HIS BROTHERS, ADEL, SHARIF, AND SAIDALLAH, WERE ESCORTED INTO THE COURTROOM BY DETECTIVES ABOUT 40 MINUTES BEFORE THE HEARING BEGAN. THEY SAT AGAINST A WHITE-PAINTED BRICK WALL AT THE SIDE OF THE FORTRESS-LIKE COURTROOM WHOSE WINDOWS WERE SHIELDED WITH ARMOR PLATE.

JUDGE SCHAUER DENIED A MOTION ON THE PART OF DIST. ATTY. EVELLE YOUNGER TO MODIFY OR RULE OUT A PREVIOUS COURT ORDER RESTRICTING STATEMENTS ON THE CASE BY OFFICIALS INVOLVED.

WITH A SIMPLE PLEA OF INNOCENT, CALIFORNIA LAW PERMITS AN ARGUMENT OF "DIMINISHED CAPACITY" OF MENTAL FACULTIES WHICH, WHILE NOT SUFFICIENT FOR ACQUITTAL, COULD AFFECT THE DEGREE OF THE OFFENSE AND SAVE THE TINY FORMER HORSE RACE EXERCISE BOY FROM THE GAS CHAMBER.

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SIRHAN 8/2 NX
 BY JACK V. FOX

LOS ANGELES (UPI)--DOZENS OF PERSONS WITNESSED THE JUNE 5 ASSASSINATION OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY AND SAW A GUN WRENCHED FROM THE HAND OF SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN MOMENTS LATER.

TODAY, THE SLENDER DEFENDANT WAS APPEARING IN COURT TO ANSWER THE CHARGE HE MURDERED KENNEDY, AND IT WAS ANTICIPATED HIS ATTORNEY WOULD PLEAD INNOCENT OR INNOCENT BY REASON OF INSANITY.

THE 24-YEAR-OLD JORDANIAN-BORN SIRHAN WAS SUMMONED TO A MINI-FORTRESS COURTROOM ONLY 30 FEET FROM HIS CELL ON THE 13TH FLOOR OF THE HALL OF JUSTICE WHERE AMOR PLATE SHIELDS THE COURTROOM WINDOWS AND THE 80 NEWSMEN AND SPECTATORS ARE SEARCHED FOR WEAPONS.

SIRHAN WAS EXPECTED TO APPEAR AT 9 A.M. PDT (NOON EDT).

RUSSELL PARSONS, THE DEFENSE ATTORNEY, REVEALED THURSDAY THAT A PLEA HAD BEEN DECIDED UPON AND WOULD BE ENTERED TODAY.

ASKED IF SIRHAN CONCURRED IN THE PLEA, PARSONS SAID:

"OH, YES. I WOULDN'T DO ANYTHING WITHOUT HIS APPROVAL."

KENNEDY WAS FATALLY WOUNDED SHORTLY AFTER MIDNIGHT IN A PANTRY OF THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL MOMENTS AFTER A JUBILANT CELEBRATION OF HIS VICTORY IN THE CALIFORNIA DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY, WITH HIS WIFE AT HIS SIDE. ONE OF THE THREE BULLETS PENETRATED HIS BRAIN AND HE DIED 25 1/2 HOURS LATER.

SIRHAN HAD THE OPTION OF PLEADING GUILTY, INNOCENT, INNOCENT BY REASON OF INSANITY--OR A DOUBLE PLEA OF INNOCENT AND INNOCENT BY REASON OF INSANITY.

"SOME OF MY ASSOCIATES--THEY'RE IN FAVOR OF TWO PLEAS," PARSONS COMMENTED. "BUT I DON'T LIKE TO ENTER A PLEA JUST FOR PROTECTION."

PARSONS STATEMENT WAS GENERALLY TAKEN TO MEAN SIRHAN'S DEFENSE WOULD BE INNOCENT OR INNOCENT BY REASON OF INSANITY.

IF HE SHOULD PLEAD SIMPLY INNOCENT, CALIFORNIA LAW PERMITS AN ARGUMENT OF "DIMINISHED CAPACITY" OF MENTAL FACULTIES WHICH, WHILE NOT SUFFICIENT FOR ACQUITTAL, COULD AFFECT THE DEGREE OF THE OFFENSE AND SAVE THE TINY FORMER HORSE RACE EXERCISE BOY FROM THE GAS CHAMBER.

LATE THURSDAY, PARSONS FILED A LEGAL BRIEF OPPOSING MODIFICATION OF A SWEEPING COURT ORDER PROHIBITING EXTRA-JUDICIAL STATEMENTS BY PERSONS CONNECTED WITH THE CASE.

AT SIRHAN'S LAST COURT APPEARANCE, DIST. ATTY. EVELLE YOUNGER SAID HE WILL SEEK EITHER REVOCATION OR MODIFICATION OF THE "ORDER RE PUBLICITY" ISSUED BY SUPERIOR JUDGE ARTHUR L. ALACRON THE DAY SIRHAN WAS INDICTED. THE ORDER HAD THE EFFECT OF CLAMPING A VIRTUAL NEWS BLACKOUT ON THE CASE.

PARSONS' BRIEF SAID THE KENNEDY CASE IS THE "THIRD KILLING OF PROMINENT PERSONS IN RECENT TIMES IN THE U.S." HE LISTED THE OTHERS AS THE SLAYINGS OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY AND DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

CITING THE "WIDESPREAD INTEREST" IN THE CURRENT CASE BY THE NEWS MEDIA, PARSONS SAID, "RECENTLY, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF THIS COUNTY WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT 'IN THIS CASE WE WILL SEEK THE DEATH PENALTY.'"

"THIS ALONE COULD WELL PREJUDICE THIS CASE," PARSONS SAID, FOR IT IMPARTS MANY THINGS, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THE WIDESPREAD DISCUSSION OF THE DEATH PENALTY IN CALIFORNIA AND THE FACT THAT ITS VALIDITY IS HENDING BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT OF CALIFORNIA AND OTHER COURTS."

AFTER THE PLEA, SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE RICHARD SCHAUER WAS EXPECTED TO SET A TRIAL DATE. PARSONS HAS SAID HE WILL SEEK TO HAVE THE TRIAL HELD BACK UNTIL NOVEMBER WHEN THE ELECTION IS OVER. THE ATTORNEY SAID HE WOULD NOT ASK A CHANGE OF VENUE.

"HE CAN GET AS FAIR A TRIAL HERE AS IN CARIBOU, MAINE," HE SAID.

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6-14 *5/14/68*

UPI-155

(SIRHAN)

LOS ANGELES--"I THINK WE'LL BE READY TO PLEAD FRIDAY," SAYS RUSSELL E. PARSONS, ATTORNEY FOR SIRHAN B. SIRHAN, THE 24-YEAR-OLD NATIVE OF JORDAN ACCUSED OF ASSASSINATING SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

PARSONS SAID TUESDAY THAT THE PLEA TO BE SUBMITTED FOR SIRHAN STILL HAS NOT BEEN DECIDED BECAUSE HE IS AWAITING RECEIPT OF A SECOND PSYCHIATRIC REPORT ON THE SUSPECT.

THE ATTORNEY ADDED THAT ONCE THE DECISION ON THE PLEA HAS BEEN REACHED, HE DOES NOT EXPECT TO MAKE IT PUBLIC.

"I DON'T THINK I SHOULD," PARSONS SAID. "WE'LL ANNOUNCE IT IN COURT WHEN OUR CASE IS CALLED."

PARSONS SAID ONE OF THE PSYCHIATRISTS WHO EXAMINED SIRHAN HAS BEEN OUT OF TOWN AND HIS FINDING WON'T BE AVAILABLE UNTIL LATER IN THE WEEK.

"WE DON'T NEED IT AT THIS POINT TO PLEAD," PARSONS SAID. HOWEVER, HE ADDED THAT THE SECOND PSYCHIATRIST'S FINDING WOULD BE "HELPFUL."

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Cost of Holding Sirhan

According to the newspaper the cost of holding Sirhan has amounted to over \$219,000 and inasmuch that the taxpayers have to foot the bill maybe The Times could obtain and publish an itemized statement as to how this money was spent.

I am sure that the rooms at the local jail are quite reasonable, meals included.

Sirhan could stay at one of the finest hotels for a year for a lot less than the amount spent to-date.

IVOR STEWART
Los Angeles

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn has said he obtained an accounting from the county auditor that disclosed that \$210,629 had been spent through July 7. The total cost, however, is deceptive. Some of the costs would occur for any prisoner under normal conditions. Others, including \$46,946 listed as "extraordinary expenditure" by the mechanical department, are misleading. Of the latter amount, \$20,000 for protective devices may never be spent in the event of a change of venue and \$11,000 for a kitchen and air-conditioning unit had been budgeted previously and would probably be spent even if there was no Sirhan case.—Ed.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

II-4 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/25/68
Edition: Home
Author:
Editor: Nick B. Williams
Title: KENSALT

Character:

or

Classification: LA 56-156

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

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170 AUG 6 1968

59 AUG 8 - 1968

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Curb on Photos of Kennedy's Body Asked

SACRAMENTO (UPI) —The State Senate was asked Saturday to forbid widespread exploitation of more than 300 pictures taken of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy's body after his assassination.

The fact that the pictures were taken during the post-mortem and autopsy of the late New York Senator was disclosed during debate over a rider on a bill already approved by the State Assembly.

The bill was co-sponsored by Assembly Speaker Jesse M. Unruh (D-Inglewood), chairman of the state's 174-member delegation to the Democratic National Convention.

The bill by Unruh and Assemblyman Frederick J. Bear (D-San Diego), originally contained provision only to forbid evidence obtained by electronic eavesdropping from being used in court trials in California.

But it was amended Friday afternoon — without a public announcement—to require a judge's order before anyone could obtain copies of the Kennedy pictures.

Sen. Donald L. Grunsky (R-Watsonville), GOP leader of the upper house, pressed for passage of the amended bill with the provision in it—and ran into opposition that prevented action Saturday.

On a roll call, the vote was 25 to 4—two votes short of the necessary two-thirds majority, as a result, Grunsky asked the Senate to reconsider the bill again, possibly Monday.

He disclosed that more than 300 photographs were taken of the senator's body by Los Angeles County officials and said Dist. Atty. Evelle J. Younger may use some of them in the trial of Kennedy's accused assassin, Sirhan B. Sirhan.

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

C-8 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/21/68
Edition: Final
Author:
Editor: Nick B. Williams
Title:

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Character:

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Classification: LA 56-156

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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Sirhan Fails in Bid for Sleeping Pills, Wins Delay on Plea

BY DIAL TORGERTSON
Times Staff Writer

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan sought unsuccessfully to make a deal with Superior Court Friday to get sleeping pills.

At a court convened deep within the Hall of Justice jail, the accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy was asked if he would agree to a waiver granting psychiatrists his ail medical records.

For the first time in four court appearances Sirhan gave more than brief yes and no replies.

"I have constantly been asking for sleeping pills," he said. "If they give me sleeping pills, I'll waive it."

His attorney, Russell E. Parsons, held a quick, whispered conference with Sirhan. Then he spoke for his client:

"Mr. Sirhan has agreed to waive," said.

Jail Physician's Duty

After Sirhan agreed to the waiver nothing further was said in court about sleeping pills. But, though the judge didn't agree to Sirhan's condition, Parsons said later he felt it was the jail physician's duty to see that the pill request was satisfied.

Sirhan was brought to court Friday for plea. A two-week continuance was granted at his lawyer's request.

The waiver of the traditional doctor-patient relationship — between Sirhan and County Jail physician Marcus Crahan — was needed to facilitate psychiatric and neurological examinations requested by Parsons.

His request that the plea hearing be continued until Aug. 2, to allow time for completion of doctors' reports, was granted by Superior Judge Richard Schauer.

Parsons would not say what plea he expected Sirhan to enter. But he hinted at a possible defense when he told newsmen after the hearing that he had once saved a convicted murderer from the gas chamber by contending that a head blow had rendered him legally insane.

In September, 1966, Sirhan, employed as an exercise boy at a race track, suffered a head injury in a fall from a horse. He later demanded and received state disability for the injury.

Parsons received the court's permission to have Sirhan examined by Dr. Roderick Richardson, a psychologist, and Dr. Edward Davis, a neurosurgeon authorized to make an encephalogram of Sirhan's brainwaves. Reports of two court-appointed psychiatrists are also pending.

At the same hearing, Dist. Atty. Evelle J. Younger filed notice his office was asking the court to vacate or modify Superior Judge Arthur L. Alarcon's June 7 order prohibiting persons with knowledge of the case from talking to news media.

Will Be Argued

That motion will be argued Aug. 2, in the same court where the Friday session was convened — a sheriff's briefing room on the 13th floor of the three-story jail facility atop the Hall of Justice.

A dozen sheriff's deputies stood around the room, intently watching an audience of 81, as the 18-minute hearing was conducted. They were under orders to eject immediately anyone who moved or stood up.

Windows of the room were blocked by sheets of quarter-inch armorplate. Extra guards stood at every entrance and exit of the 15-story structure. A sheriff's helicopter circled watchfully overhead.

Everyone admitted to the court was searched by sheriff's deputies before the session began. Deputies began searching spectators — who included Sirhan's brother, Adel, 29 — two hours before the court session began at 9 a.m.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-1 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/20/68
 Edition: Home
 Author: Dial Torgerson
 Editor: Nick B. Williams
 Title: KENSALT
 Character:
 or
 Classification: LA 56-156
 Submitting Office: Los Angeles
☐ Being Investigated

55 AUG 1 1968

Asked on Arrangements

Judge Schauer called "the matter of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan" before the prisoner was admitted, asking if either Parsons, for the defense, or Younger and Chief Dep. Dist. Atty. Lynn D. Compton, for the prosecution, wished to comment on the makeshift circumstances of the court.

Neither side did.

"The bailiff will now please bring in the defendant," said Judge Schauer.

Sirhan, 24, stepped quickly in from a side door, having been brought 50 feet from his cell nearby. He was wearing a blue dress shirt, open at the collar over a white T-shirt; tight, dark trousers, and loafer-type shoes. He slightly needed a haircut. A shadow of heavy beard was visible despite what looked like a fairly recent shave.

He shook hands warmly with Parsons, a thin, elderly man in a black suit. Sirhan waved at his brother, neatly dressed in a conservative blue suit and sitting in a roped-off section of seats among high-ranking sheriff's officers at the front of the room.

'Are You Sirhan?'

"Are you Sirhan?" asked the judge.

"Yes sir," he said, briskly.

"Are you ready to plea?"

"Not yet," interjected Parsons, explaining that he had received only preliminary reports from one court-appointed psychiatrist and none from the second, and wanted the psychologist and the neurosurgeon to examine the prisoner.

The judge asked if all parties were agreeable to waiving the traditional privilege given matters between a doctor and a patient—in this case the jail doctor and Sirhan—so Dr. Crahan could tell examining doctors about Sirhan's behavior in jail.

Surprise to Parsons

It was then that Sirhan made his request for sleeping pills. It was, apparently, a surprise to Parsons. He explained to newsmen later:

"He said he wanted some sleeping pills," Parsons said. "He asked if the judge would kindly order doctors to give him some sleeping pills. He has not

been resting too well. I

don't rest too well myself. You wake up at 2 or 3 a.m. and think about things.

"The judge in effect made an order that reports of the jail doctor should be made available as asked."

Would Sirhan get the pills?

"It's the doctor's duty to see that this man is properly cared for," Parsons said.

Jurist Explains

"The court did not entertain the defendant's request for medication," Judge Schauer said later. "The court did not order any medication for the defendant nor could it do so, since that would be a function of the medical profession."

Has Sirhan been refused sleeping pills—and would he get any now? Officials of the jail medical facility declined comment, referring questions to the Sheriff's Information Bureau, which said it couldn't reply because of the court order made by Judge Alarcon.

Younger said he hopes that the order would be vacated.

"It's too restrictive," said Younger to a newsman later. "We're not anxious to have a precedent established where we could be muzzled like that, far beyond what we consider logical and proper."

"Ninety-nine per cent of the area covered we don't make any comment about, anyway. We don't normally comment about the guilt or innocence of a party, or about evidence. But, beyond that, we think the public interest demands more—the answers to certain questions."

Cites Examples

Questions such as, "Is there any evidence of a conspiracy? Is there a foreign government involved? Is there a plot on behalf of an extremist group?"

"Suppose it was widely rumored that the killing of Sen. Kennedy was done as an assassination hired by Nasser (president of the Republic of Egypt)? I think it would be best to answer this question. Under the court order I am unable to reply."

Security measures more intense than any seen before in the Hall of Justice were ordered for the protection of the Jordanian-born defendant, subject since the June 5 shooting of Sen. Kennedy of countless anonymous threats against his life.

"The family is quite satisfied with the security arrangements," said Adel Sirhan, looking around the heavily guarded room after the hearing. He was brought from the Sirhans' Pasadena home by Pasadena detective Ben Hetherington and Michael McGowan, Parsons' investigator.

"The sheriff's department has been very cooperative in letting us come to see him," Adel said. Had Sirhan discussed with Adel his problems about sleeping? "It could be," said Adel.

Constant Guard

Sirhan is under round-the-clock guard, an officer with him at all times in the 6-by-8-foot cell. Guards are changed every 30 or 40 minutes, Sheriff Peter Pitchess said earlier this week.

Parsons said that Sirhan's mother, Mary, often visits him—and that they pray together.

The attorney said that

in his cell, "Sirhan reads constantly. He's a constant student, a deep reader." He prefers books by and about great men, including Mohandas K. Gandhi, the Indian apostle of nonviolence, who was himself assassinated in 1948.

In reviewing the importance of a full study of Sirhan's mental compe-

tence, Parsons cited the case of Darryl Thomas Kemp, convicted and sentenced to die in 1959 for the 1957 rape-murder of a nurse, Marjorie Hipper-son, in a Los Feliz-area apartment.

Parsons, an attorney with a long string of appeals victories to his credit, took the case after the conviction and won

Kemp a stay of execution, a sanity hearing, and, finally, his life.

"Kemp was to be executed," Parsons said, "but what his mother said was found to be true—he had been injured playing football. As a result we had a jury trial in Marin County and they found him presently insane. He's now in a state insane asylum."



AFTER THE HEARING—Sirhan B. Sirhan stands with his attorney, Russell B. Parsons, before deputies

return him to his cell after a hearing in a heavily guarded courtroom in the Hall of Justice.
Times photo by John Maimin

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

SIRHAN GIVEN TWO WEEKS TO COMPLETE MENTAL TESTS

Pre-trial proceedings for Sirhan Bishara Sirhan have been delayed for two weeks to allow time for completion of additional psychiatric and

brain damage tests of the 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant, accused as the assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Sirhan made an 18-minute appearance in an armor-plated, heavily guarded special courtroom on the 13th floor of the Hall of Justice.

He listened with bird-like alertness and at one point asked Superior Court Judge Richard Schauer if he could have sleeping pills "because I haven't been resting too well."

Judge Schauer granted a

two-week continuance in the case until Aug. 2, at the request of defense counsel Russell Parsons.

Extensive mental tests being given Sirhan support reports he may eventually enter a dual plea of not guilty and not guilty by reason of insanity.

The court also granted permission for a psychologist, Roderick Richardson, and a neurologist, Dr. Edward Davis, to examine Sirhan in his isolated cell on the 13th floor of the Hall of Justice.

Parsons told the judge he has received only two preliminary reports from court-appointed psychiatrist Dr. Eric Marcus. H said no report has been submitted by Dr. George Abe of Norwalk State Hospital who was appointed three weeks ago.

Yesterday marked the second time Sirhan has appeared in court under heavy guard and failed to enter a plea in connection with the assassination which occurred on the night of the California presidential primary.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Bishop _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
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Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
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Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

B-8 Herald-Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/20/68
Edition: 8 Star
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character:

or

Classification: LA 56-156

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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NOT RECORDED

46 JUL 31 1968

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

COST OF ASSASSINATION TRIAL DISCUSSED**Police to Quiz 4,000 on Sirhan,
Yorty Says****BY ERWIN BAKER**
Times Staff Writer

Police expect to conduct about 4,000 interviews in an effort to "run down every possible lead" in the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, Mayor Sam Yorty disclosed Wednesday.

Yorty made the disclosure at his weekly news conference in commenting on the cost involved in the upcoming trial of Sirhan. Bishara Sirhan.

The 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant is scheduled to enter his plea to a murder indictment Friday.

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn announced last week that County Auditor Mark Bloodgood had budgeted \$210,629 through July 7 in connection with the case.

Some officials, however, consider the figure deceptively high because of costs which would normally be attributed to any prisoner. Yorty noted that the county figure did not include police investigation.

The city outlay has not yet been tabulated, but "it will be a very large figure," the mayor said, adding that the money will come from the taxpayers.

In answer to a question, Yorty said he was "satisfied" that Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess would maintain "adequate" security during Sirhan's court appearances.

On other subjects, the mayor chided Councilman Ernani-Bernardi for his opposition to an annual city birthday fiesta.

And he said he hasn't made up his mind on the renewal of a controversial contract for golf professional Richard Boggs, the driving range concessionaire at Sepulveda Basin Golf Course in the San Fernando Valley.

Bernardi blasted the birthday celebrations Monday as "a lot of malarkey and a waste of money."

He suggested that they be held periodically or every decade.

Mr. Tolson	_____
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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-3 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/18/68
Edition: Home
Author: Erwin Baker
Editor: Nick B. Williams
Title: KENSALT

Character:

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Classification: LA 56-156

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

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46 JUL 31 1968

55 AUG 1 1968

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

A Look at Sirhan

Courtroom

Sirhan B. Sirhan, 25, accused as the assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, will make another court appearance Friday in the smallest courtroom in Los Angeles County—but the most unusual.

The miniaturized courtroom was previewed yesterday to the press and others on the 13th floor of the County Jail in the Hall of Justice.

It was built especially for the Sirhan proceedings, with his safety the prime concern. The area is part of the old women's quarters in County Jail, now adapted to court purposes.

On entering, it has the general appearance of a courtroom, but is only 46 by 50 feet. The

ceiling is low, lit by fluorescent lighting. The floor is brown asphalt tile, and the walls and ceiling are freshly painted in off white.

The judge's bench is raised two steps off the floor. There is no witness box. Two mahogany tables for lawyers and the defendant are before the bench. Five padded chairs line the tables.

There are 80 collapsible chairs for spectators, and behind a rope divider, 23 more for court officials and guards. The room is air conditioned, and microphones are hooked to an amplifying system on the judge's bench and counsel table. Behind the judge are floor to

ceiling drapes, in beige burlap. They stand out strangely from the wall. Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess, responsible for the safety and welfare of Sirhan, pulls the drapes and reveals three quarter-inch steel plates, each six feet wide and 7½ feet in height.

"This is an outside room with windows, looking down on the street," he explains. "The plates are for protection, so nothing can be thrown in, like explosives, or a bomb."

Sirhan technically is to appear Friday to enter a plea to a charge of murdering Senator Kennedy at the Ambassador Hotel last June 5. Whether he asks a further delay for further psychiatric studies, or other legal reasons, will not be known until then.

The slight, former racehorse exercise boy is held under intensive guard in a cell only about 50 feet from the courtroom. One deputy sits with him in his cell, others watch them from outside.

Sheriff Pitchess says Sirhan has been a quiet prisoner, reading considerably, and sometimes trying to engage his guards in conversation. They respond briefly, but do not converse.

He buys newspapers and paperback books from the jail cart, but has made no unusual demands, and talks at length only with his attorney, Russell E. Parsons.

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Mr. Trotter _____
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Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-3 Herald-Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/17/68
Edition: Night Final
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

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Classification: LA 56-156
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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SHERIFF PETER PITCHESS EXPLAINS SIRHAN TRIAL RULES IN FORTIFIED COURT
Between a window and the judge's bench is steel plate which would foil any shooting or bomb-throw

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Impregnable Court Ready for Sirhan, Pitchess Asserts

BY DIAL TORGERSON

Times Staff Writer

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan will appear Friday in a court so well defended "someone would have to destroy the entire building to get him," Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess said Tuesday.

A sheriff's briefing room high in the 15-floor Hall of Justice in the Civic Center will be the scene of the Friday hearing, at which Sirhan is to enter a plea.

Panels of armor plate have been placed across windows of the 50-by-46-foot room on the 13th floor to assure the safety of the man accused of assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Pitchess showed the facility to newsmen Tuesday in a preview of the Friday hearing and told of precautions taken for the session:

—Everyone present for the hearing, including more than 40 newsmen and about 30 spectators, will be searched before being allowed in the court.

No Loss of Security

—Sirhan, held in a 6-by-8-foot cell 50 feet away, will be taken down a corridor and into the court without having to leave the maximum security facilities of the 13th floor.

—The armor in front of the windows will protect the room in case "anyone tries to throw anything in the window," Pitchess said.

Pitchess said that the room was set up as a court—with a judge's bench and counsel tables—only for the plea hearing. He said it would be up to the judge appointed to hear the case where the trial itself will be held.

The sheriff said that security precautions and the redecorating of the room had been planned prior to the Sirhan case.

The room was once a visiting room for the women's quarters of the old County Jail. After women inmates were moved out in 1965 it was used as a storeroom and then refurbished as a squad room for briefing of sheriff's personnel assigned to the Hall of Justice.

Sirhan is in a five-cell block of units in which he is at present the only prisoner. A guard is with him in his cell at all times and another watches him from outside the bars. His food is provided from a separate kitchenette-type facility to protect him from being poisoned.

"He gets the same (menu) as the main line (the regular inmate population)," said Pitchess. "We don't want anyone attempting to poison the entire population to get him."

Most of the threats against Sirhan have been dismissed as the work of cranks, the sheriff said.

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-1 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/17/68
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Title: KENSALT

Character: _____
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Classification: LA 56-156
Submitting Office: Los Angeles
☐ Being Investigated

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176 JUL 31 1968



HEARING ROOM FOR SIRHAN—Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess, showing newsmen the room in the Hall of Justice where Sirhan Bishara Sirhan will appear on

Friday, points to chairs at end of table that will be occupied by Sirhan and his lawyer. Behind Pitchess and judge's chair is armor plate covering window.
Times photo by John Malmin

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File
6-11-68

A-3
**Prosecutor
 To Ask Death
 For Sirhan**

LOS ANGELES, July 16 (UPI)—The District Attorney's office plans to seek the death penalty for Sirhan B. Sirhan, accused of assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

A spokesman also disclosed the possibility of a conspiracy was still being considered in the fatal shooting of Kennedy, moments after he claimed victory in the California Democratic presidential primary.

Chief Deputy District Attorney Lynn D. Compton, head of the three-man prosecution team, said he is preparing the case against Sirhan "with the idea of seeking the death penalty under the theory of first-degree murder which includes premeditation."

Compton refused to say what evidence, if any, had been uncovered that would indicate a conspiracy was responsible for the shooting last June 5 at the Ambassador Hotel.

Sirhan is scheduled to enter a plea Friday when his preliminary hearing is to be resumed. Defense attorney Russell E. Parsons has refused to disclose the plea to be entered by the 24-year-old Jordanian.

The Washington Post _____
 Times Herald *A-3* _____
 The Washington Daily News _____
 The Evening Star (Washington) _____
 The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
 Daily News (New York) _____
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 The New York Times _____
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 The New Leader _____
 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The National Observer _____
 People's World _____

Date *7-17-68*

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DEATH TO BE SOUGHT IN TRIAL OF SIRHAN

Special to The New York Times

LOS ANGELES, July 15—

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office confirmed today that it would seek the death penalty against Sirhan B. Sirhan, who is accused of assassinating Senator Robert F. Kennedy.

The 24-year-old Jordanian is scheduled to appear in court Friday, in the third installment of his arraignment proceeding. He had entered his plea, although there is a possibility that a further continuance may be sought by his lawyer, Russell E. Parsons, on the ground that another lawyer, as yet unidentified, has joined the defense.

Sirhan's plea could be not guilty, not guilty by reason of insanity, or a dual plea of both—as well as a possible guilty plea.

Sirhan is charged with first-degree murder, and five counts of assault with intent to murder. The murder charge carries a possible death penalty, or life imprisonment, with a possibility of release in as little as seven years.

A jury that finds a murder defendant guilty then goes through a second proceeding to set the penalty. A death penalty can be reduced by the presiding judge.

Sirhan could waive jury trial, and rest his case with the judge, but only at the option of the judge and the prosecution, which is considered unlikely.

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 6-11-68

The Washington Post _____
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 The Washington Daily News _____
 The Evening Star (Washington) _____
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 The National Observer _____
 People's World _____

Date JUL 16 1968

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305A

SIRHAN 7/16 NX
BY JOAN SWEENEY

LOS ANGELES (UPI)--THE SHERIFF TUESDAY UNVEILED THE 13TH-FLOOR "MINI-FORTRESS" COURTROOM WHERE SIRHAN B. SIRHAN IS SCHEDULED TO ENTER A PLEA FRIDAY TO THE CHARGE OF ASSASSINATING SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

IT WILL BE SIRHAN'S FIRST APPEARANCE IN THE MAKESHIFT COURTROOM IN THE HALL OF JUSTICE TO WHICH THE JORDANIAN IMMIGRANT WAS TRANSFERRED NINE DAYS AGO FROM THE MEN'S CENTRAL JAIL.

HIS CELL IS ONLY 40 FEET FROM THE ROOM, WHICH WAS ONCE PART OF THE WOMEN'S SECTION OF THE JAIL AND LATER SERVED AS A STOREROOM. TWO PREVIOUS COURT APPEARANCES OF SIRHAN THAT WERE WITNESSED BY THE PRESS WERE HELD IN THE CHAPEL OF THE CENTRAL JAIL.

SIRHAN WAS FORMALLY INDICTED FRIDAY JUNE 7 BY THE COUNTY GRAND JURY AND BROUGHT INTO THE CHAPEL-COURTROOM FOR ARRAIGNMENT IN A WHEELCHAIR BECAUSE OF AN ANKLE SPRAINED IN A STRUGGLE WITH HIS CAPTORS MOMENTS AFTER KENNEDY WAS SHOT.

THE DEFENDANT ASKED A DELAY UNTIL JUNE 28 TO ENTER A PLEA, THEN OBTAINED A THREE-WEEK CONTINUANCE UNTIL JULY 19 ON THAT DATE BECAUSE OF A SWITCH IN COUNSEL FROM THE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE TO A PRIVATE ATTORNEY.

IN PREVIEWING THE COURTROOM TO THE PRESS, SHERIFF PETER PITCHESS SAID, "THE PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF THIS CONFERENCE WAS TO GIVE YOU AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE THE SO-CALLED MINI-FORTRESS SOME OF YOU HAVE DESCRIBED. WE WANT TO GIVE YOU AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEE THE ROOM SO THERE IS NO MYSTERY AS TO ITS LOCATION OR WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE."

THE NEW COURTROOM IS MUCH SMALLER, 46 BY 50 FEET, THAN THE CHAPEL. THREE LARGE ARMOR PLATES BLOCK THE WINDOWS THAT LOOK OUT ON A BUSY DOWNTOWN STREET. THE PLATES, ONE-FOURTH INCH THICK STEEL WHICH MEASURES 6 BY 7 FEET, 7 INCHES, ARE BEHIND THE JUDGE'S PLYWOOD ENCLOSED AREA AND ARE HIDDEN FROM VIEW BY BEIGE DRAPES WHICH ARE DRAWN ACROSS THE ENTIRE WALL. THE WALLS OF THE ROOM ARE WHITE BRICK, AND IT HAS FOLDING CHAIRS FOR ABOUT 80 SPECTATORS.

THE HEAVY SECURITY PRECAUTIONS WERE IN KEEPING WITH THOSE WHICH HAVE SURROUNDED SIRHAN SINCE HE WAS TAKEN INTO CUSTODY EARLY JUNE 5, MOMENTS AFTER KENNEDY WAS SHOT DOWN IN A PANTRY AREA OF THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL.

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WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

6-11-68

PITCHESS SAID THE NUMBER OF DEATH THREATS RECEIVED AGAINST SIRHAN HAD DROPPED:

"WE'RE STILL GETTING THEM BUT NOT IN AS LARGE A VOLUME AS WE GOT THEM ORIGINALLY."

HE SAID THAT WITH THE SECURITY REINFORCEMENTS PROVIDED FOR SIRHAN IT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO VIRTUALLY DESTROY THE 15-FLOOR HALL OF JUSTICE TO GET "AT THIS COURTROOM."

IT IS NOT KNOWN YET WHETHER THIS ROOM MIGHT BE USED FOR THE TRIAL OF SIRHAN, PITCHESS SAID. HE SAID THE DECISION WAS UP TO THE PRESIDING AND TRIAL JUDGES OF THE SUPERIOR COURT.

THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE HAS ANNOUNCED IT PLANS TO SEEK THE DEATH PENALTY FOR SIRHAN IN THE FATAL SHOOTING OF KENNEDY, A DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CONTENDER.

(MR)1126PED

Sirhan Must Enter His Plea Friday

By Gene Handsaker

LOS ANGELES, July 14 (AP)—A 45-second ding-ding-ding from electric gongs on corridor walls awakens Prisoner No. 718486 at 6:30 a.m.

A small figure, under-wear-clad, rises from a narrow bunk hinged to the concrete wall. Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, the 24-year-old Jordanian charged with assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, starts another day of—

- Confinement with a guard in a 6-by-8 foot windowless cell on the 13th floor of the Civic Center's smog-grimed, 15-story Hall of Justice.

- Wearing standard Los Angeles County jail garb, blue denim pants and blue cotton shirt stenciled "L.A. Co. Jail," his name and booking number on a plastic band riveted around his left wrist.

- Reading newspapers he buys or books he orders from the jail library.

- Pacing a larger caged area outside his cell 20 minutes morning and afternoon.

- Eating candy bars . . . smoking cigars . . . hoping for visitors . . . and, mostly, just waiting to be taken to an improvised 13th floor courtroom next Friday to plead guilty or not guilty.

His cell furnishings are standard: toilet-coverless because a seat could be ripped off and used as a weapon; wash basin and round metal mirror attached to the wall.

Sirhan's attorney, Russell E. Parsons, calls him "a reader and a loner . . . a man who could spend a lot of his life alone."

Paradoxically, despite the capacity 1834 prisoners around him on the top five floors — accused robbers, burglars, forgers, rapists, etc.—Sirhan already is largely alone. His cell is in an isolated corridor, its other cells emptied of inmates.

The guard in his cell is one of 19 husky deputies who tower over the swarthy, bushy-haired young man who stands 5 feet 3 and weighs 110 pounds.

From jail store carts the deputies buy the candy, cigars and paperbacks Sirhan requests, paying for them from the \$6 weekly personal funds allowed each prisoner. His reading ranges from the occult to light fiction.

Under Constant Watch

Picked for proven dependability and stability, the guards watch Sirhan six at a time in eight-hour shifts: one in the cell, one in the exercise area, four in the corridor.

They're forbidden to talk with him unnecessarily, just as with any prisoner.

Says a sheriff's aide, speaking rhetorically:

"If Sirhan asks what time it is, the guard will tell him. But if he asks, 'What do you think of my attorney?' the guard may say, 'I don't know him' or if he asks, 'What do you think of this country sending planes to Israel?' the guard will say, 'I don't know much about it.'"

Security around the Hall of Justice has been tightened. A newly assigned deputy stands outside the jail elevator at the ground floor. Additional officers patrol the grounds.

Why such measures? Says the sheriff's aide: "We don't want another Dallas"—a reference to Jack Ruby's slaying of Lee Harvey Oswald, accused assassin of President Kennedy, before Oswald could be brought to trial.

Sirhan's food matches the menu of other inmates but is prepared separately, a precaution, an aide says, against poisoning.

The sheriff's department has two main preoccupations with Sirhan: (1) to see that he is brought to trial and (2) within security limits, treat him no differently from any other prisoners.

More than \$200,000

The cost of Sirhan's security? Says an aide: "\$10.48 per day, the cost of housing any county inmate under E.O. 14176

But Sirhan's guards are diverted from regular duties.

[An accounting from County Auditor Mark Bloodgood on what the Sirhan case has cost the county thus far put the figure at \$210,629 through July 7, the Los Angeles Times reported.]

Sheriff aides said Sirhan "has given us no bad time particularly. He has attempted to communicate with our deputies. They respond primarily with 'yes' or 'no.'"

"We continue to receive a large number of threats against this man's life and against ourselves for trying so hard to keep him alive." Sirhan receives "a fair

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The Washington Post **A-3**
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The National Observer _____
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Date **JUL 15 1968**

62-587-A
NOT RECORDED
170 JUL 16 1968

TOP CLIPPING
DATED **7-15-68**
FROM **11M41-1058**
MARKED FILE AND INITIALED

volume of mail, at least 100 letters so far." These are machine-copied and the copies are given to Sirhan's attorney.

Says and aide to Attorney Parsons: "We give him the ones that are favorable. Some are pretty vicious."

Parsons, 69, nearly 50-year veteran of law practice, said Sirhan is "cooperating with me and seems to be making the best of it. He's under a strain."

Sirhan asks about his family, his mother Mary and four brothers, in nearby Pasadena. Has he asked Parsons for anything? "Just to come and see him."



United Press International

SIRHAN B. SIRHAN

"I tell him his mother sends her love, and he says, 'Give them my love.' He thinks a lot of his mother and brothers."

Rules of Waiting Game Are Ironclad for Sirhan

Los Angeles, July 14 (AP)—A 45-second ding-ding-ding-ding from electric gongs on corridor walls awoke prisoner No. 718486 at 6:30 A.M. today.

A small figure, underwear-clad, rose from a narrow bunk hinged to the concrete wall. Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, 24, the Jordanian charged with assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, started another day of:

- Confinement with a guard in a 6-by-8-foot windowless cell on the 13th floor of the Civic Center's smog-grimmed, 15-story Hall of Justice.
- Wearing standard Los Angeles County jail garb — blue denim pants and blue cotton shirt stenciled "L. A. Co. Jail," his name and booking number on a plastic band riveted around his left wrist.

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• Eating candy bars . . . smoking cigars . . . hoping for visitors . . . and, mostly, just waiting to be taken to an improvised 13th-floor courtroom on Friday to plead guilty or not guilty.

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Sirhan's food matches the menu of other inmates' but is prepared separately—a precaution, the aide said, against poisoning.

Said Peter John Pitchess, 56, attorney, former FBI agent and for the last 10 years Los Angeles County sheriff:

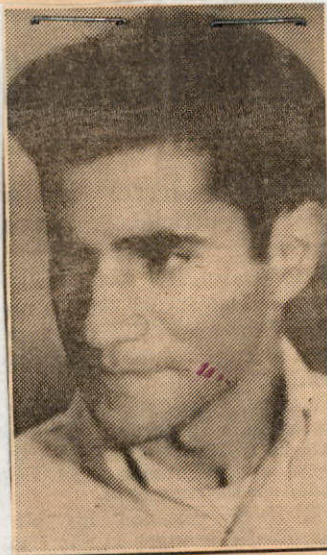
"We continue to receive a large number of threats against this man's life—and against ourselves for trying so hard to keep him alive. There have been threats by phone and mail against me, my home and my family. I haven't lost any sleep over them."

Sirhan receives "a fair volume of mail." These are machine-copied and the copies are given to Sirhan's attorney.

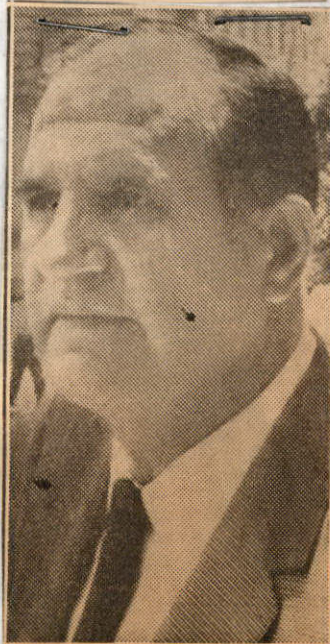
Said an aide to attorney Russell E. Parsons, 69: "We give him the ones that are favorable. Some are pretty vicious."

Does Sirhan sleep well?

"I think he does, but he's a nervous, restless man," Parsons said.



Associated Press Wirephoto
Sirhan B. Sirhan
In Los Angeles jail



Peter John Pitchess
Sheriff in L.A.

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The Washington Post

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Faces Hearing Friday

Sirhan Reads, Paces... Waits

By Gene Handsaker

LOS ANGELES, July 14 (AP)—A 45-second ding-ding-ding from electric gongs on corridor walls awakens Prisoner No. 718486 at 6:30 a.m.

A small figure, under-wear-clad, rises from a narrow bunk hinged to the concrete wall. Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, the 24-year-old Jordanian charged with assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, starts another day of—

• Confinement with a guard in a 6-by-8 foot windowless cell on the 13th floor of the Civic Center's smog-grimed, 15-story Hall of Justice.

• Wearing standard Los

Angeles County jail garb, blue denim pants and blue cotton shirt stenciled "L.A. Co. Jail," his name and booking number on a plastic band riveted around his left wrist.

• Reading newspapers he buys or books he orders from the jail library.

• Pacing a larger caged area outside his cell 20 minutes morning and afternoon.

• Eating candy bars . . . smoking cigars . . . hoping for visitors . . . and, mostly, just waiting to be taken to an improvised 13th floor courtroom next Friday to plead guilty or not guilty.

His cell furnishings are standard: toilet-coverless because a seat could be ripped

off and used as a weapon; wash basin and round metal mirror attached to the wall.

Sirhan's attorney, Russell E. Parsons, calls him "a reader and a loner . . . a man who could spend a lot of his life alone."

Paradoxically, despite the capacity 1834 prisoners around him on the top five floors — accused robbers, burglars, forgers, rapists, etc.—Sirhan already is largely alone. His cell is in an isolated corridor, its other cells emptied of inmates.

The guard in his cell is one of 18 husky deputies who tower over the swarthy,

See SIRHAN, A16, Col. 1

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 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The National Observer _____
 People's World _____

Date 7-15-68

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51 JUL 16 1968

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Sirhan Watched Around Clock

SIRHAN, From A1

bushy-haired young man who stands 5 feet 3 and weighs 110 pounds.

From jail store carts the deputies buy the candy, cigars and paperbacks Sirhan requests, paying for them from the \$6 weekly personal funds allowed each prisoner. His reading ranges from the occult to light fiction.

Under Constant Watch

Picked for proven dependability and stability, the guards watch Sirhan six at a time in eight-hour shifts: one in the cell, one in the exercise area, four in the corridor.

They're forbidden to talk with him unnecessarily, just as with any prisoner.

Says a sheriff's aide, speaking rhetorically:

"If Sirhan asks what time it is, the guard will tell him. But if he asks, 'What do you think of my attorney?' the guard may say, 'I don't know him' or if he asks, 'What do you think of this country sending planes to Israel?' the guard will say, 'I don't know much about it.'"

Security around the Hall of Justice has been tightened. A newly assigned deputy stands outside the jail elevator at the ground floor. Additional officers patrol the grounds.

Why such measures? Says the sheriff's aide: "We don't want another Dallas"—a reference to Jack Ruby's slaying of Lee Harvey Oswald, accused assassin of President Kennedy, before Oswald could be brought to trial.

Sirhan's food matches the menu of other inmates but is prepared separately, a precaution, an aide says, against poisoning.

The sheriff's department has two main preoccupations with Sirhan: (1) to see that he is brought to trial and (2) within security limits, treat him no differently from any other prisoners.

The cost of Sirhan's security? Says an aide: "\$10.48 per day, the cost of housing any county jail prisoner." But Sirhan's guards are diverted from regular duties.

More than \$200,000

[An accounting from County Auditor Mark Blood good on what the Sirhan case has cost the county thus far put the figure at \$210,629 through July 7, the Los Angeles Times reported.]

Pitchess said Sirhan "has given us no bad time particularly. He has attempted to communicate with our deputies. They respond primarily with 'yes' or 'no.'"

"We continue to receive a large number of threats against this man's life and against ourselves for trying so hard to keep him alive."

Sirhan receives "a fair volume of mail, at least 100 letters so far." These are machine-copied and the copies are given to Sirhan's attorney.

Says and aide to Attorney Parsons: "We give him the ones that are favorable. Some are pretty vicious."

Parsons, 69, nearly 50-year veteran of law practice, said Sirhan is "cooperating with me and seems to be making

the best of it. He's under a strain."

Sirhan asks about his family, his mother Mary and four brothers, in nearby Pasadena. Has he asked Parsons for anything? "Just to come and see him."

"I tell him his mother sends her love, and he says, 'Give them my love.' He thinks a lot of his mother and brothers."

Like Parsons, Sirhan's

brother Adel, 29, has visited the prisoner several times. His mother has visited twice, once since the move to new quarters.

But family members get no farther than a window of heavy glass. On built-in metal stools Sirhan sits on one side, his mother or brother on the other in the corridor. They talk over hand telephones.



Sirhan Is Just Another Prisoner Except for Tight Security Rules

**He Reads, Paces Caged Area
and Smokes, but Mostly He
Awaits Date to Enter Plea**

LOS ANGELES, July 14 (AP)—A 45-second ring of the electric gongs on the corridor walls awakens Prisoner No. 718486 at 6:30 A.M.

A small figure, clad in underwear, rises from a narrow bunk hinged to the concrete wall.

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, the 24-year-old Jordanian charged with assassinating Senator Robert F. Kennedy, starts another day.

He is confined with a guard in a 6-by-8-foot windowless cell on the 13th floor of the Civic Center's smog-grimed, 15-story Hall of Justice.

He wears standard Los Angeles County jail garb—blue denim pants and blue cotton shirt stenciled "L.A. Co. Jail." His name and booking number are on a plastic band riveted around his left wrist.

He reads newspapers he buys or books he orders from the jail library.

He paces a larger caged area outside his cell 20 minutes morning and afternoon.

He eats candy bars, smokes cigars, hopes for visitors and, mostly, just waits to be taken to an improvised 13th floor courtroom July 19 to plead guilty or not guilty.

'Reader and Loner'

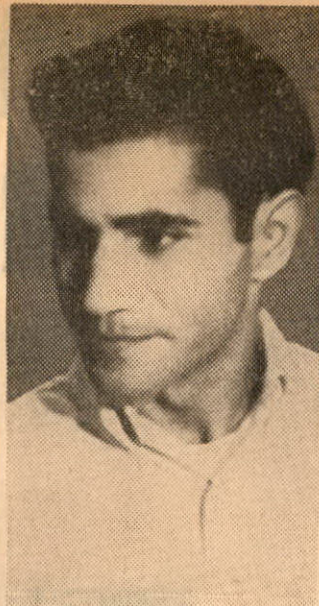
His cell furnishings are standard—a toilet, coverless because a set could be ripped off and used as a weapon; a wash basin and a round metal mirror attached to the wall.

Sirhan's attorney, Russell E. Parsons, calls him "a reader and a loner, a man who could spend a lot of his life alone."

Despite the capacity 1,834 prisoners around him on the top five floors—accused robbers, burglars, forgers, rapists, and so forth—Sirhan is largely alone.

His cell is in an isolated corridor, its other cells emptied of inmates. On his own floor, but beyond thick walls, are separate sections of homosexuals and rules-breakers denied such privileges as mail and cigarettes.

The guard in his cell is one of 18 husky deputies who tower over the swarthy, bushy-haired young man who stands 5 feet 3 inches and weighs 110 pounds.



Associated Press

Sirhan B. Sirhan

From jail store-carts the deputies buy the candy, cigars and paperbacks Sirhan requests, paying for them from the \$6 weekly personal funds allowed each prisoner. His reading ranges from the occult to light fiction.

Picked for proved dependability and stability, the guards watch Sirhan six at a time in eight-hour shifts—one in the cell, one in the exercise area, four in the corridor.

They are forbidden to talk with him unnecessarily, as with any prisoner.

A sheriff's aide said:

"If Sirhan asks what time it is, the guard will tell him. But if he asks, 'What do you think of my attorney?' the guard may say, 'I don't know him' or if he asks, 'What do you think of this country sending planes to Israel?' the guard will say, 'I don't know much about it.'"

Security around the Hall of Justice has been tightened. A newly assigned deputy stands outside the jail elevator at the

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The Washington Post

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The Sunday Star (Washington)

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New York Post

The New York Times 18

The Sun (Baltimore)

The Worker

The New Leader

The Wall Street Journal

The National Observer

People's World

Date JUL 15 1968

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~~ground floor.~~ Additional officers patrol the grounds.

The reason for these measures was explained by the sheriff's aide, who said, "We don't want another Dallas," a reference to Jack Ruby's slaying of Lee Harvey Oswald, the assassin of President Kennedy.

Sirhan's food matches the menu of the other inmates but is prepared separately — a precaution, an aide says, against poisoning.

The sheriff's department has two main preoccupations with Sirhan — to see that he is brought to trial and, within security limits, to treat him no differently from any other prisoner.

Peter John Pitchess, 56, Los Angeles County sheriff, "We learned a lot of things from the Oswald case."

The security measures probably set a record for any prisoner in Los Angeles County history, he acknowledged.

The cost was put by an aide at "\$10.48 per day, the cost of housing any county jail prisoner." But Sirhan's guards are diverted from regular duties.

Of Sirhan, Mr. Pitchess said. "He has given us no bad time particularly. He has attempted to communicate with our deputies. They respond primarily with 'yes' or 'no.'"

"We continue to receive a large number of threats against this man's life and against ourselves for trying so hard to keep him alive. There have been threats by phone and mail against me, my home and my family."

Sirhan receives "a fair volume of mail, at least 100 letters so far." These are machine-copied and the copies are given to Sirhan's attorney.

An aide to the attorney, Mr. Parsons said, "We give him the ones that are favorable. Some are pretty vicious."

Mr. Parsons, who is 69, said that Sirhan's attitude was "similar to that of most men in jail."

"He looks about as comfortable as most men in jail," he said. "He's cooperating with me and seems to be making the best of it. He's under a strain."

Sirhan's brother Adel, 29, has visited the prisoner several times. His mother has visited twice. But family members get no farther than a window of heavy glass. On built-in metal stools Sirhan sits on one side, his mother or brother on the other in the corridor. They talk over hand telephones.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Sirhan Will Enter Plea in Mini-Fortress 'Court'

Friday Appearance Slated in Room With Armor-Plated Walls

BY JERRY COHEN
Times Staff Writer

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan will make his fourth courtroom appearance next Friday in a setting probably without equal in this nation's judicial history.

He will enter his plea to an indictment charging him with the murder of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy in a converted "bullpen" which once housed women prisoners on the 13th floor of the Hall of Justice.

By armor-plating the sides, workmen have turned the holding tank—which is about the size of a large room—into a mini-fortress.

The conventional cell in which Sirhan is imprisoned, guarded around the clock by two deputies, stands inside the tank.

Sirhan will have only to step outside the cell Friday to appear in "court."

Portable Seats for Newsmen

A portable judge's bench, constructed by the County Mechanical Department, has been set up in the armored bullpen.

Portable seats will be placed in the courtroom area to accommodate the limited number of newsmen who will be allowed to be present for the pleading.

The bullpen occupies part of an isolated corridor on the 13th floor.

The surroundings and atmosphere, thus, will be even more unusual Friday than those which characterized Sirhan's three previous courtroom appearances.

After his indictment, he was arraigned in an austere chapel of the County Central Jail, where he was held prior to his secret transfer last Sunday to the Hall of Justice.

Won Delay in Pleading

He also won a delay in his pleading in the same chapel three weeks ago.

The first legal proceeding, held only a few hours after his arrest early June 5, came in the Municipal Court of Judge Joan Dempsey Klein.

It was his arraignment on the original booking charge—and was held in total secrecy and an hour and a half before the normal opening of the court day.

Because of limited seating in the armored bullpen, Superior Judge Richard Schauer and Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess announced, "cooperative pool coverage arranged by the

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Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

III-1 Los Angeles
Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/13/68
Edition: Home
Author: Jerry Cohen
Editor: Nick B. Williams
Title: KENSALT

Character:

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Classification: LA 56-156

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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media itself will be mandatory" next Friday.

The proceeding will begin at 9 a.m. It is not known whether future pre-trial developments in the case will be staged in the same maximum security arena.

However, it still is presumed that the trial itself will be held in a conventional courtroom on the eighth floor of the Hall of Justice.

The Board of Supervisors has authorized expenditures to install protective devices in whatever courtroom might be selected.

Meanwhile, Supervisor Kenneth Hahn disclosed he had obtained an accounting from County Auditor Mark Bloodgood on what has been spent thus far in connection with the Sirhan case.

Public Entitled to Know

He said he had asked for the accounting in the belief that the public "is entitled to know the full costs."

Bloodgood's figures disclosed that through July 7 the total cost was \$210,629. The figures were broken down by department—medical examiner, district attorney, mechanical, public defender, sheriff and courts.

However, the total cost is deceptive.

One reason is that it is broken down in "extraordinary costs," "regular costs" and "general county overhead," and a sizable portion of the two latter categories would occur for any prisoner under normal conditions. These would range from salaries for deputies, to contribution to the county employees' retirement system and workmen's compensation.

How It Works Out

Even some of the "extraordinary costs" are misleading, if the auditor's figures are interpreted to mean expense for the Sirhan case alone.

For instance, the figures show an "extraordinary" expenditure of \$47,964 by the mechanical department.

Of that sum, \$20,000 may never be spent at all and about \$11,000 probably would have been spent on providing a 13th floor kitchen in the Hall of Justice and an air-conditioning unit on that floor.

Both the kitchen and the air-conditioning unit, which will cool the area where Sirhan is held, had been budgeted previously by the sheriff's office.

As for the \$20,000, that sum represents the estimated cost of protective devices for the courtroom in which the trial will be held.

But the possibility of a change of venue would rule such an expenditure out. In addition, Presiding Superior Judge Donald R. Wright has said it will be up to the trial judge to determine what protective measures will be necessary.

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Cost of Sirhan Case Tallied

LOS ANGELES, July 12 (UPI) — Preparations for the trial of Sirhan B. Sirhan on charges that he killed Sen. Robert F. Kennedy already have cost nearly a quarter-million dollars, it was revealed today.

"And the trial has not even begun nor has the jury been selected," said County Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, who made the cost disclosure.

He said County Auditor Mark Bloodgood informed him that \$210,629 has been spent on the case thus far.

Some of the money was spent for installation of a five-ton air-conditioning unit on the 13th floor of the Hall of Justice, the building in which Sirhan is jailed and where his trial will be held this fall.

Hahn said Bloodgood's figures disclosed these other costs connected with the case: Chief medical examiner-corer, \$4701; district attorney, \$32,062; mechanical department, \$52,676; public defender, \$2864; sheriff's office, \$116,039; and court, \$2287.

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SIRHAN 7/12 NX

LOS ANGELES (UPI)--THE TWO PSYCHIATRISTS APPOINTED TO EXAMINE SIRHAN B. SIRHAN HAVE YET TO COMPLETE THEIR REPORTS ON THE MENTAL MAKEUP OF THE ACCUSED SLAYER OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

THE PSYCHIATRIC REPORTS, AVAILABLE ONLY TO THE DEFENSE, WILL BE USED BY ATTORNEY RUSSELL E. PARSONS IN THE PREPARATION OF A PLEA, POSSIBLY INNOCENT BY REASON OF INSANITY.

AN AIDE TO PARSONS SAID THURSDAY A COURT ORDER BANNING PRETRIAL STATEMENTS PREVENTED THE DEFENSE FROM SAYING WHETHER A PLEA WOULD BE ENTERED WHEN SIRHAN'S PRELIMINARY HEARING RESUMES JULY 19 OR WHETHER ANOTHER CONTINUANCE WOULD BE SOUGHT.

THE DEFENSE SPOKESMAN ALSO REVEALED THAT SIRHAN THURSDAY WAS VISITED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS NEW JAIL CELL BY HIS MOTHER AND A BROTHER.

THE 24-YEAR-OLD JORDANIAN WAS SECRETLY TRANSFERRED LAST SUNDAY FROM THE HOSPITAL WARD OF THE COUNTY JAIL TO THE "CELL WITHIN A CELL" IN THE HALL OF JUSTICE IN DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES.

PARSONS ACCOMPANIED MRS. MARY SIRHAN AND HER SON, ADEL, TO THE CLOSELY GUARDED CELL JUST AFEW FLOORS ABOVE THE COURTROOM WHERE SIRHAN IS EXPECTED TO BE TRIED.

PARONS' OFFICE SAID SIRHAN LOOKED "CONCERNED," BUT THAT HIS MOTHER AND BROTHER WERE PLEASED AT THE NEW SURROUNDINGS, WHICH ARE ROOMIER THAN SIRHAN'S OLD CELL.

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FOR MR. TOLSON

51 JUL 16 1968

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE
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SIRHAN'S NEW QUARTERS A CELL WITHIN A CELL

Sirhan B. Sirhan, accused as the assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, will be able to visit relatives only through a thick glass window in his new Hall of Justice jail cell, according to Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess.

Only Sirhan's attorney, Russell E. Parsons, and a jail guard assigned to his six-by-nine-foot cubicle, will have personal contact with the Jordanian immigrant.

Pitchess said any other visitors allowed to see Sirhan will be separated from the prisoner by a partition through which they can see. However, voice communications will be accomplished through a telephone hookup.

Sirhan, confined to a maximum security cell in the hospital section of Men's Central Jail since his arrest June 5 after Kennedy and five others were shot in the Ambassador Hotel, was moved to the Hall of Justice Sunday. Kennedy was the only fatality.

The transfer, accomplished by a three-car police convoy in the afternoon, was so secret Parsons did not know about the move until his client was securely confined to his new quarters in one of the top floors of the Hall of Justice.

The jail section occupies the 10th through 14th floors of the building, which also houses the courtroom in which Sirhan is expected to stand trial.

Pitchess said the transfer was "routine... and was part of an over-all previously scheduled program of security for the inmate."

The way apparently was paved to hold future courtroom proceedings in the Hall of Justice instead of in the chapel of the men's jail, a mile away, where Sirhan has made his only two appearances.

The next court date for the accused man is July 19, when he is scheduled to enter his plea.

Sirhan's new cell—freshly painted green—is described as a "cell within a cell."

In the inner cell to which Sirhan is confined is a bunk fixed to the wall, a toilet stool without a cover, a wash basin and a 12-inch mirror, made of metal and attached to a wall.

It is located in an isolated corridor with no outside windows and no other prisoners.

Inside the cell with Sirhan is an unarmed jail guard. A second guard stands just outside the cell and others are assigned to the maximum security area.

The larger area is equipped with bars and sliding doors like the cell, but it has the 20-by-30-inch window through which Sirhan can communicate with visitors via telephone.

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Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
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Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

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A-3 Herald-Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/9/68
Edition: Night Final
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Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

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Classification: LA 56-156

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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SIRHAN SIRHAN'S N2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176 COUNTY HALL OF JUSTICE

Reporter watches heading to building where accused slayer was moved in a secret transfer

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(SIRHAN)

LOS ANGELES--SIRHAN B. SIRHAN, THE ACCUSED SLAYER OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, WAS SECRETLY MOVED FROM A HOSPITAL WARD AT THE COUNTY JAIL TO THE HOLDING CELL WHERE HE IS EXPECTED TO STAY DURING HIS TRIAL, IT WAS DISCLOSED TODAY.

SHERIFF PETER J. PITCHESS SAID THE MOVE WAS MADE SUNDAY AS "PART OF AN OVER-ALL PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED PROGRAM OF SECURITY FOR THE INMATE."

PLANS TO MOVE THE 24-YEAR-OLD JORDANIAN IMMIGRANT INTO SPECIALLY PREPARED QUARTERS AT THE HALL OF JUSTICE PRIOR TO HIS COURT APPEARANCE JUNE 26 WERE CANCELLED WHEN SECURITY MEASURES WERE NOT COMPLETED IN TIME.

THE PROCEEDINGS, AT WHICH SIRHAN'S ATTORNEY, RUSSELL J. PARSONS WAS GRANTED A CONTINUANCE TO JULY 19, WAS HELD IN THE SAME JAIL CHAPEL WHERE HE WAS ARRAIGNED THE DAY AFTER KENNEDY'S DEATH.

SIRHAN'S NEW QUARTERS IN THE FORTRESS-LIKE HALL OF JUSTICE IN THE LOS ANGELES CIVIC CENTER ARE LESS THAN A MILE FROM THE NEW COUNTY JAIL WHERE HE WAS HELD IN THE HOSPITAL SECTION.

COUNTY SUPERVISORS AUTHORIZED UP TO \$20,000 EXPENDITURES TO TURN THE HOLDING CELL AND COURTROOM WHERE SIRHAN WILL BE TRIED INTO A STEEL FORTRESS.

HEAVY STEEL SHIELDS WERE PLACED OVER WINDOWS ALONG A SEALED PASSAGEWAY WHERE THE DEFENDANT WILL WALK FROM THE 13TH FLOOR CELL TO THE EIGHTH FLOOR COURTROOM.

ONLY JAIL ELEVATORS RUN ABOVE THE EIGHTH FLOOR, AND NEW WALLS AND STEEL DOORS WERE ERECTED IN THE CELL.

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Kennedy Slaying
Claimant a Suicide

JUAREZ, Mexico, July 5 (UPI)—Police said today Crispin Curiel Gonzalez, 17, a Mexican-American who said he was involved in the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, was found hanged in his hospital psychiatric cell.

Authorities had said they did not believe Gonzalez's story and felt he did it for publicity. But he had been put under observation in the psychiatric wing of Liberty Hospital in Juarez, just across the border from El Paso, Tex. Gonzalez was arrested last month after a passerby picked up a letter he had dropped and found it said he claimed to be an accomplice to the Kennedy shooting.

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Munir Sirhan, left, his older brother, Saidallah, and two policemen examine damage to the car of the older Sirhan brother. —UPI Photos

Two Shots on the Pasadena Freeway

Ambush of Sirhan Kin Fails

PASADENA, Calif., July 4 (UPI) — The eldest brother of the man accused of assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy told police he became the target of would-be killers on a freeway in the pre-dawn hours yesterday.

Saidallah B. Sirhan, a 36-year-old unemployed machinist, told police seven white men in two vehicles pursued his car on the Pasadena freeway and fired two shots which narrowly missed him.

Mr. Sirhan, brother of Sirhan B. Sirhan, told police the attack occurred while he was en route home here from a futile attempt to contact a woman writer for an underground newspaper in neighboring Los Angeles.

BULLETS FOUND

Police said two bullets from a .38 caliber pistol were recovered. Mr. Sirhan said he leaned way over in the car after the first shot rang out. The second bullet was found on his jacket on the floor between the front and back seats.

"Had the driver been sitting upright, the projectile probably would have passed thru his neck," one policeman reported.

The attack preceded by only a short time publication in the Pasadena Independent Star-News of a copyrighted interview.

"I feel that I should not be punished for the alleged acts of my brother by being deprived of my citizenship," the elder Sirhan was quoted as saying.

HEARING CANCELED

He told a reporter that the Government canceled a June 7 naturalization hearing. He said authorities told him the hearing — two days after the Kennedy assassination — would be rescheduled, but said so far it has not been.

"I feel that I am not my citizenship because I feel that I am

loyal to the United States," Mr. Sirhan said. "I came to this country to better my conditions in life," he added, saying that "without citizenship, I am unable to advance myself in the United States."

The nerve-wrecking pursuit began as Mr. Sirhan was driving alone thru the Chinatown section of downtown Los Angeles. He said the drivers of the pursuing vehicles sounded their horns and changed lanes as they got onto the freeway.

FLANKED HIM

Mr. Sirhan said he drove in the middle lane to let the vehicles pass, but they began to flank him. One of four persons in the bus pointed a pistol at him.

The first bullet tore thru the right wind-wing of Mr. Sirhan's car. At this point, he leaned over to avoid being shot. The second bullet also ripped into the car.

The two pursuing vehicles then turned off the freeway and Mr. Sirhan said he drove to the police station here to report the attack. Police advised him to go to the home of his mother, Mary Sirhan, 55, and his brother, Adel, about 28, which is under police protection.

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The Sun (Baltimore) _____
The Worker _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____
Date 7-4-68

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Two Shots Fired at Sirhan's Brother in Auto, Police Report

Accused Assassin's Kin Tells Pasadena Officers: Bullets Came From Car That Had Followed Him From Los Angeles

BY ERIC MALNIC

Times Staff Writer

Two shots were fired Wednesday into a car driven by Saidallah Bishara Sirhan, a brother of the man accused of killing Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, police reported.

However, The Times learned, that Sirhan underwent a persistent, lengthy police interrogation and his answers to certain key questions during a lie detector test were considered unsatisfactory.

Sirhan, 35, told officers the shots came from one of two cars that followed him from Los Angeles to Pasadena on the Pasadena Freeway shortly before dawn.

The first shot struck a coat on the back seat of Sirhan's car, Pasadena Police Lt. Gerald Wright said. Sirhan told investigators he ducked

and a second shot zipped past his head and buried itself in the door beside him.

"If he had been sitting upright, the projectile probably would have passed through his neck," a Pasadena policeman said.

Sirhan told officers the shooting took place about 100 yards from the end of the freeway. He said the cars turned in opposite directions on a cross street at that point, while he proceeded directly to the police station.

Lt. Wright said he had "no doubt at all" about the incident. "We're taking it for a fact right now," he said.

Brother Awaiting Trial

Sirhan's 24-year-old brother, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, is in County Jail awaiting trial on charges he shot Sen. Kennedy June 5 at the Ambassador.

Saidallah Sirhan is the second eldest of the five Sirhan brothers. He is single and unemployed and has been living in a Pasadena apartment away from the remainder of the Sirhan family.

Pasadena police urged Friday that he move into the family home in Pasadena, which is under heavy police guard.

Saidallah Sirhan told officers he had been in Chinatown early Wednesday in an unsuccessful attempt to contact a woman reporter from an underground newspaper.

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Mr. Trotter _____
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Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

I-1 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

FILE

6-Has

Date: 7/4/68
Edition: Home
Author: Eric Malnic
Editor: Nick B. Williams
Title:

KENSALT

Character:

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Classification: LA 56-156

Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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Noticed Cars Following Him

He said he was returning home on the Pasadena Freeway in the downtown Los Angeles area at about 4:30 a.m. when he first noticed two cars following him.

One car, a white Volkswagen bus, contained four men, he said. The other, a green 1959 Chevrolet, contained three men.

After following him for about six miles, he said, the two cars pulled beside him, the Volkswagen on the right, the Chevrolet on the left.

Without warning, a man in the bus—possibly the driver—pointed a



UNDER HEAVY GUARD — Saidallah Bishara Sirhan is squeezed between two detectives on leaving Pasadena police headquarters where he reported that shots were fired at him as he drove on the Freeway. Times photo by Larry Sharkey

pistol at him and fired one shot, Sirhan said.

The shot shattered the right wind wing of his car and buried itself in the coat on the back seat, he said.

Sirhan said he threw himself to the right, seconds before another shot crashed through the wind wing and struck the door beside him.

The 35-year-old Pasadena said the two cars left the freeway at Glenarm St., where the Pasadena Freeway becomes the Arroyo Parkway. The bus turned right on Glenarm, the Chevrolet left, he said.

Sirhan said he then drove on to the police headquarters, about a mile away.

Police said they recovered two bullets from the car, both .38-caliber. After checking the vehicle, they returned it to Sirhan's apartment home, where it was parked in a garage.

Officers then took Sirhan on a careful retracing of his route in an attempt

to gather further evidence.

Saidallah Sirhan entered the United States from his native Jordan in June, 1960, nearly three years after his mother and three of his brothers—including Sirhan Bishara Sirhan—had immigrated here.

He filed a petition for naturalization on Nov. 27, 1967—the only member of his family to apply—but his naturalization was postponed on June 7 of this year by a U.S. district court.

At one time he worked as a house painter, but in recent months he has been unemployed.

The five Sirhan brothers are Sharif, 39; Saidallah, who will be 36 Sunday; Adel, 29; Sirhan, 24; and Munir, 20.

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SIRHAN 7/3 HC
 ADV FOR AMS SUN JULY 7
 BY JOAN SWEENEY

LOS ANGELES (UPI)--FOR THE PAST MONTH, THE WORLD OF SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN, ACCUSED ASSASSIN OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY HAS CONSISTED OF A 12 BY 12 FOOT JAIL CELL AND 30 FEET OF CORRIDOR OUTSIDE IT.

ONLY TWICE SINCE HE WAS TAKEN TO THE CELL AFTER A SECRET MUNICIPAL COURT ARRAIGNMENT JUNE 5, A FEW HOURS AFTER KENNEDY WAS SHOT AT THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL, HAS SIRHAN LEFT ITS IMMEDIATE VICINITY. BOTH TIMES WERE FOR BRIEF COURT APPEARANCES IN A MAKESHIFT COURTROOM THAT USUALLY SERVES AS THE CHAPEL OF THE MEN'S CENTRAL JAIL, A MAXIMUM SECURITY FACILITY.

SIRHAN'S CELL ACTUALLY IS A ROOM IN THE HOSPITAL WING OF THE LARGE REINFORCED CONCRETE STRUCTURE SITUATED IN AN INDUSTRIAL SECTION ADJACENT TO A RAILROAD TRACK IN DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES.

THE CELL IS PAINTED A GREENISH-GREY AND IS SPARSELY FURNISHED WITH A BED, A WASH BASIN, TOILET AND A WRITING DESK THAT CAN BE RAISED OR LOWERED TO REST AGAINST THE WALL.

ALTHOUGH SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES NOW REFUSE TO COMMENT ON SECURITY PRECAUTIONS, THEY WERE BELIEVED TO BE THE SAME AS ORIGINALLY EMPLOYED: A GUARD IN THE ROOM WITH SIRHAN, A SECOND WATCHING HIM THROUGH A SMALL WINDOW IN THE STEEL DOOR OF HIS CELL AND THREE OTHERS ON THE CORRIDOR OUTSIDE.

THE JAIL ITSELF IS A THREE-STORY BUILDING WITH SEVERAL WINGS. IT WAS BUILT IN 1964 AND HOUSES APPROXIMATELY 3,700 PRISONERS BESIDES SIRHAN.

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FOR MR. TOLSON

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SIRHAN IS ALLOWED OUTSIDE OF HIS CELL TO EXERCISE IN THE 30-FOOT CORRIDOR IN FRONT OF IT, BUT HE HAS NO CONTACT WITH ANY OTHER JAIL INMATES. ALTHOUGH HE EATS THE SAME TYPE OF FOOD THE OTHER PRISONERS DO, HIS MEALS ARE PREPARED IN A SEPARATE KITCHEN, APPARENTLY AS AN ADDED SECURITY PRECAUTION.

HIS VISITORS HAVE BEEN FEW: ATTORNEY A. L. WIRIN OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION; DEPUTY PUBLIC DEFENDER WILBUR LITTLEFIELD; HIS PRESENT ATTORNEY, RUSSELL PARSONS; A BROTHER AND HIS MOTHER, WHO LAST MONDAY PAID HER FIRST VISIT TO HER SON SINCE HE WAS JAILED.

HE IS ALLOWED READING MATERIAL, AND REQUESTED SEVERAL BOOKS ON THE OCCULT. ALL MAIL ADDRESSED TO HIM IS TURNED OVER TO HIS ATTORNEY.

HE HAS NOT LEFT THE JAIL SINCE HE ENTERED IT. FOR HIS TWO COURT APPEARANCES HE WAS TAKEN TO THE JAIL CHAPEL UNDER HEAVY GUARD, AND ALL PERSONS ALLOWED IN THE ROOM WERE THOROUGHLY SEARCHED BEFORE HAND.

COUNTY SUPERVISORS HAVE AUTHORIZED A \$20,000 EXPENDITURE FOR INSTALLATION OF ARMOR PLATE AND BULLETPROOF GLASS IN A COURTROOM AT THE OLD HALL OF JUSTICE, SEVERAL BLOCKS AWAY, TO PROTECT SIRHAN DURING HIS TRIAL.

HOWEVER, THE PRESIDING JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT, DONALD E. WRIGHT, HAS COMPLAINED THAT HE WAS NOT TOLD OF PLANS TO TURN THE COURTROOM INTO A NEAR FORTRESS AND THAT SUCH DECISIONS WERE THE PREROGATIVE OF THE TRIAL JUDGE. HE ALSO HINTED THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY OF A CHANGE OF VENUE.

IF THE TRIAL IS HELD HERE, SIRHAN WOULD BE TAKEN FROM HIS CELL IN THE CENTRAL JAIL TO A HOLDING CELL ON THE NINTH FLOOR OF THE HALL OF JUSTICE WHERE WORKMEN HAVE INSTALLED ARMOR PLATING IN A CORRIDOR TO PROTECT HIM WHEN HE WOULD BE MOVED TO AND FROM THE COURTROOM ON THE EIGHTH FLOOR.

IV-631-PPD

FOR MR. TOLSON

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UPI-128

(BROTHER)

PASADENA, CALIF.--AN ATTEMPT WAS MADE EARLY TODAY ON THE LIFE OF SAIDALLAH B. SIRHAN, BROTHER OF SIRHAN BISHARA SIRHAN, ACCUSED ASSASSIN OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

POLICE SAID TWO SHOTS WERE FIRED AT SIRHAN, 36, FROM ONE OF A PAIR OF CARS WHICH PURSUED HIM ON THE PASADENA FREEWAY AS HE WAS RETURNING TO HIS HOME ABOUT 4:30 A.M. PDT.

BOTH BULLETS STRUCK SIRHAN'S CAR. HE SAID HE LEANED OVER AWAY AFTER THE FIRST SHOT WAS FIRED AND THE SECOND BULLET WAS FOUND ON HIS JACKET LYING ON THE FLOOR OF THE BACKSEAT.

"HAD THE DRIVER BEEN SITTING UPRIGHT THE PROJECTILE PROBABLY WOULD HAVE PASSED THROUGH HIS NECK," AN OFFICER SAID.

SIRHAN SAID THAT AFTER THE SHOTS WERE FIRED HE DROVE TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS AND THE TWO PURSUING CARS TURNED OFF THE FREEWAY.

POLICE SAID BOTH BULLETS, FROM A .38-CALIBER GUN, WERE RECOVERED. SIRHAN SAID THE BULLETS CAME FROM A HANDGUN.

HE SAID HE FIRST NOTICED THE CARS AS HE WAS DRIVING THROUGH THE CHINATOWN SECTION OF DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES. HE SAID THE CARS' HORNS WERE BLOWING AND THEY WERE CHANGING LANES.

SIRHAN SAID HE WAS RETURNING FROM ATTEMPTING TO CONTACT "A LADY WRITER" FOR AN UNDERGROUND NEWSPAPER BUT HAD BEEN UNABLE TO FIND HER.

SIRHAN SAID HE GOT ON THE FREEWAY AND INTO THE MIDDLE LANE TO LET THE CARS PASS BUT THEY BEGAN TO FLANK HIM. HE SAID HE SAW A HANDGUN BEING POINTED AT HIM FROM THE WINDOW OF ONE OF THE VEHICLES, A SMALL FOREIGN-MADE BUS, BUT HE COULD NOT TELL WHETHER IT WAS HELD BY THE DRIVER OR THE PASSENGER IN THE FRONT SEAT. HE SAID THERE WERE TWO OTHER MEN IN THE BACK SEAT.

THE OTHER CAR HE SAID CONTAINED THREE MEN, ONE DRIVING AND TWO IN THE REAR.

AFTER THE SHOOTING, POLICE ADVISED SIRHAN TO GO TO HIS MOTHER'S HOME WHICH IS UNDER GUARD.

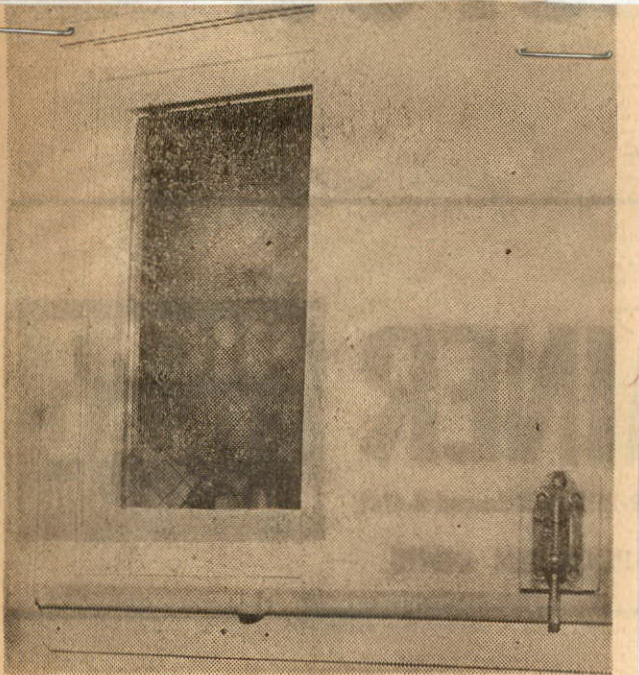
OFFICERS SAID POLICE WOULD RETRACE SIRHAN'S 10-MILE ROUTE WITH HIM IN AN EFFORT TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION.

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FOR MR. TOLSON

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

The Path of Fate Sirhan Will Walk Each Day



Steel Shielding Covers Every Corridor Opening

Workmen have completed installation of armor plating in the 9th floor corridors of the Hall of Justice in preparation for the trial of Sirhan B. Sirhan, charged with killing Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Sliding metal panels over door windows and inch-thick metal plates over windows exposed to interior courtyard walls have been put in their places.

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Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-2 Herald-Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 7/2/68
Edition: Night Final
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character:

or

Classification: LA 56-156
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

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Only the courtroom in which Sirhan will be tried remains to be chosen and shielded to complete the \$20,000 bullet-proofing project which began last week.

When the courtroom is selected, workmen will construct a transparent barrier completely across the facility, separating Sirhan, the judge, jury and court officials from spectators.

One police official who watched workmen complete the 9th-floor project declared "this man (Sirhan) has greater security than even the president of the United States."

Sirhan has been confined in the county's Central Men's Jail since his arrest June 5, after Kennedy was mortally wounded and six other persons injured in a burst of gunfire, at the Ambassador Hotel.

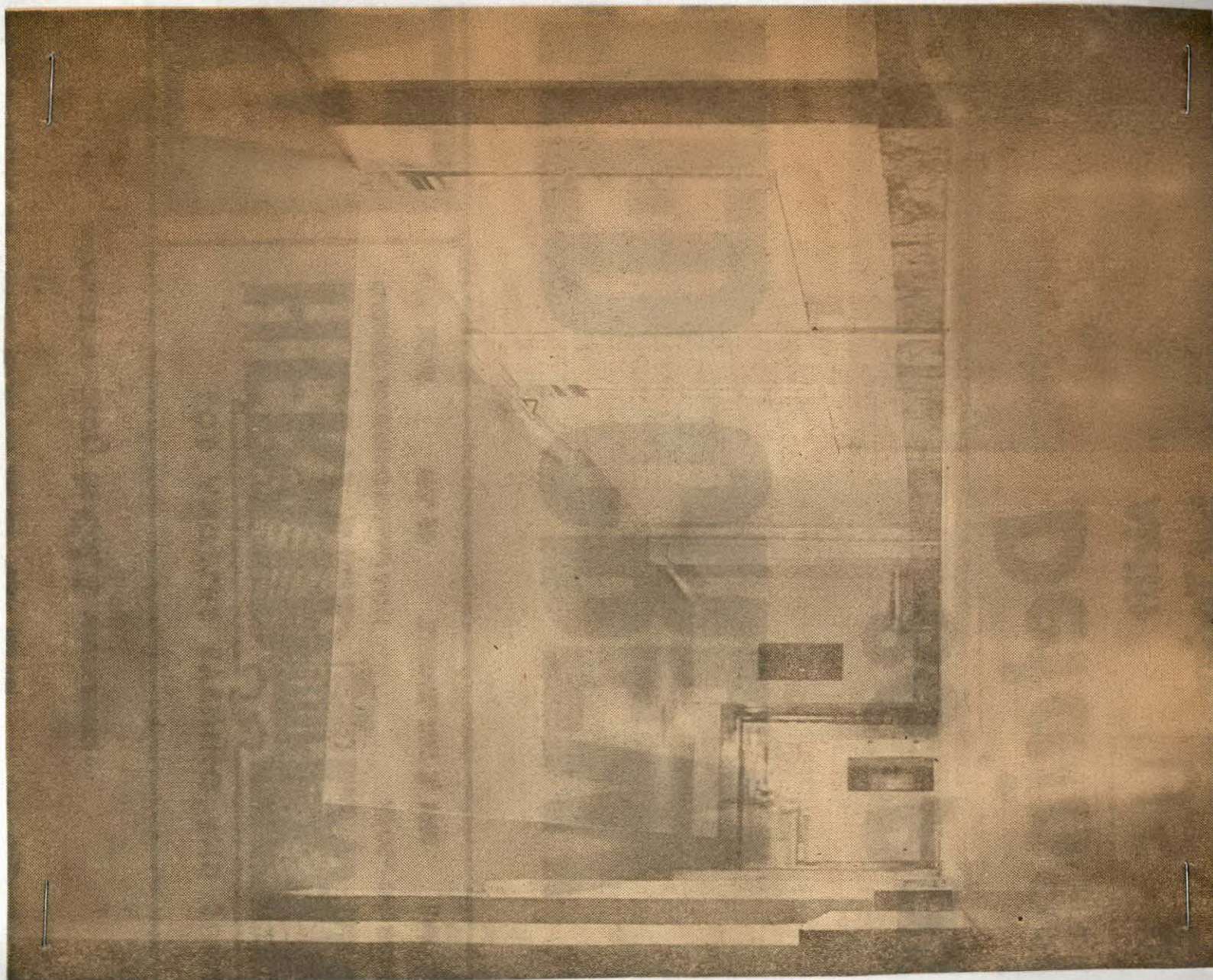
During the trial, it is expected he will be confined to the Hall of Justice jail, located on the floors above the building's 9th level.

Jail prisoners must pass through the 9th floor en route to 8th floor courtrooms. Separate stairwells lead to each individual courtroom.

Sirhan will be brought to the 9th floor and then escorted to the courtroom level by passing through two solid metal doors, each of which has a small window. It was over these windows sliding metal plates, have been placed. They can be controlled only from within the corridor.

His brief journey also will proceed past two 9th floor windows, exposed only to a very few inner windows in the Hall of Justice. These were covered with inch-thick metal plates.

Since his confinement to Central jail, he has been kept under constant guard by deputies inside and outside his cell. Each visitor allowed to see Sirhan is thoroughly searched.



2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

WALK TO JUSTICE for Sirhan B. Sirhan will be armor-plated, with extensive security installations now being placed. At the County Hall of Justice, windows in steel doors along the path the accused killer of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy must take have had sliding steel panels installed, which lock from the corridor side (photo at far left). Sirhan will enter the hallway (left) from the small door at the center, which leads to the cell blocks. Inch-thick steel shields have been placed over the ninth floor windows, with a scant 4-inch margin allowing light to enter. The accused will take a right turn at the end of the hall, descend to the courtroom level on steel-plated steps (below). The stairway leads to an anteroom of the courtroom (lower left), where the trial may take place. Security plans call for a transparent shield to be placed in the courtroom, separating onlookers from Sirhan, judge and court officials.

—Herald-Examiner Photos by Bob Schultz



Story May Unfold in This Courtroom



Mother In First Time Visit to Jailed Sirhan

Mrs. Mary Sirhan—mother of son, Adel, and Sirhan's defense attorney, Russell E. Parsons, ed slayer—spent nearly two hours in her son's jail cell and seemed "happy to see him." that was being done to aid Sirhan. She expressed gratitude for strict security measures taken to protect him.

Mrs. Sirhan visited her 24-year-old son in the new County Jail yesterday, the first time she had seen Sirhan B. Sirhan since he was jailed June 5. She reportedly did not bring anything into his cell.

Sirhan Family of Little Cohesion, Aloof From Community and One Another

Accused Slayer Said to Be Quiet, Polite and Thoughtful

By ROBERT WINDELER
Special to The New York Times

PASADENA, Calif., June 29

Mary Sirhan sat on the faded yellow sofa in the tiny living room of her house on Howard Street and sighed as she looked through a copy of Life magazine with a picture of her fourth son and of James Earl Ray on the cover.

"All wrong," she said softly with a noticeable Arabic accent. "The names are all spelled wrong and in the baby picture they got Adel and him mixed up."

Everyone was always getting Adel and "him" mixed up. And with the Sirhans hard facts were hard to come by, especially since the court had told them not to talk.

Adel and he were close in age (Adel is said to be 27 years old; his younger brother Sirhan B. Sirhan is 24) and even closer in looks. Neighbors were never sure just who it was out cutting the grass or washing the car.

But Adel was the gregarious one, the one who went out with girls, who worked as a carpenter until he found a job as a musician. He felt at home in bars.

The Silent One

Sirhan was the silent one, the polite attendant at two Pasadena gas stations, the thoughtful neighbor who always had time to help an old lady roll a rug or reline a shelf, the serious student at Pasadena City College who kept wishing he was at U.C.L.A.

His social life in school seemed to consist of an occasional coffee with fellow students at Bob's Big Boy, a hamburger place across from the campus.

His only apparent aberration after school was spending most afternoons of the racing season at nearby Santa Anita, betting on every race and either winning a bundle or losing everything in his pockets. Once he did so well he quit working for Ivan Millicic's Chevron service station and lived off his winnings.

And Sirhan, according to a close family friend, was his mother's favorite. "He was the one who didn't wander," she said. He was at home at home.

Adel now sat in the living room across from his mother, sifting through a pile of mostly unopened letters and telegrams looking for a particular address.

Waiting to Plead

Sirhan sat in a 12-foot-square maximum security cell at the Los Angeles County Central Men's Jail, waiting to plead guilty or not to the murder of Senator Robert F. Kennedy and not acknowledging, according to all reports from the jail, that that murder had ever taken place.

But the Senator was murdered, and on Howard Street they were talking about it. Mrs. Sirhan, a tiny woman not quite five feet tall and weighing 90 pounds, has read every magazine and newspaper account she could find.

There were frequent visits from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and a few friends who got past both the Pasadena policemen who sat on the front porch or in a police car in the driveway and Shareis, her second son, who answered the door.

"Her heart is broken both ways," said Mrs. M. A. Pulite, a neighbor. "She is broken hearted for Kennedy and for her son. Most of the time she seems fine — I say fine, but how do I know, how does anyone know, what's inside her?"

Sirhan has not seen his family since his arrest June 5. They have made no attempt to visit him, and he has not asked for them. Ask Mary Sirhan about

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FILE
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The Washington Post _____
Times Herald _____
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The Evening Star (Washington) _____
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The New York Times 42 _____
The Sun (Baltimore) _____
The Worker _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____
Date JUN 30 1968

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that and she will simply say that she is under court order not to make a statement but that no, she still has not seen her son.

Different Careers

Despite their living together most of the time, the Sirhan family — mother, five brothers and a sister — seemed always to be apart, from one another and from their surroundings. They pursued different careers and made different friends. They seldom communicated with each other — in English or in Arabic.

In this city, famous for its wealth, they were poor. In a thoroughly assimilated, largely Lebanese Arab-American community in greater Los Angeles, they were first-generation Jordanian nationalists. Of an ethnic group with a strong patriarchal tradition, they were a family without a father.

The Sirhans came here in 1957, with a father, Bishara Sirhan (according to tradition all his sons bear his first name as a middle name) but he left shortly afterward to return to Jordan, not to be heard from again until his son Sirhan was said to have killed Senator Kennedy.

Mary Surhan found work quickly, as the low-paid housekeeper for a church-run nursery school. But her children had less luck.

Saidallah, now 35 and the eldest, was a painter who was so often out of work that he had time to paint the Sirhan house on Howard Street three times, inside and out.

He was the only one of the family to have taken steps to become an American citizen, and he would have become one this month but for an unsettled matter of a narcotics charge.

Shareif, who is in his early 30's, found work as an accountant for the State Baptist Convention but was dismissed, causing his family to quit the Baptist Church in protest.

The Sirhans' daughter, Ayda, died of leukemia three years ago. She would have been 30. She worked as a bookkeeper and shipping clerk and was the closest to her mother.

But even here there was estrangement; Ayda married a man named Mennell, who was several years her senior, under mysterious circumstances. They lived in Palm Springs, where he ran a shop. Mrs. Sirhan never met her son-in-law until Ayda's funeral, and he has not been seen since.

Munir, the suspect's 20-year-old younger brother, is also called Joe and it was through him that the murder weapon was traced. He was a clerk at Nash's Department Store here and he tried to resume his normal life last week.

He walked to the corner of Howard and Lake Avenue, to get the bus in the direction of Nash's, and waved to the lady in the Orange Julius stand, who said it was nice to see him back. Within an hour he was home again and a beige car with two F.B.I. men in it came by to take him away for questioning.

Best Hope of Family

Sirhan himself was the least outgoing of the six children, but the only one who went to college and the best hope of all of them. He enrolled at Pasadena City College, a two-year publicly supported school of 13,000 students best known for its privilege of picking the annual queen of the Rose Bowl. There, he studied history and languages, including Russian, and he kept his name out of the weekly newspaper and school yearbook.

Toni Saylor, a classmate at P.C.C., remembers one night in the fall of 1964 at Bob's Big Boy when Sirhan criticized her for favoring Lyndon B. Johnson in the upcoming election. "We thought he must be for Goldwater, but he never said so," she recalls. She also recalls that in other sessions "he was always kind of secretive about what he was doing, but he would discuss girls a lot."

At various times, according to friends and neighbors, Sirhan wanted to be a journalist, a diplomat or a teacher. He gave up all those ideas to pursue a career as a jockey.

He had the build for that (5 feet 2 inches, 120 pounds) but apparently not much else. He failed his first test for an exercise boys' license, and when he finally did get the

license he fell from a horse and landed on his head, collecting \$1,705 in workmen's compensation. His new attorney, Russell Parsons, has hinted that brain damage from that fall might be a possible defense in his trial.

Of his brothers, Sirhan saw only Adel with any regularity. And most of the places Adel went were not for him.

Musician at Club

At the Fez, a second-story night club in Hollywood decorated in red velvet, the patrons sit on camel-leather floor cushions to watch the best of the few belly dancers in town.

The Fez is one of the few gathering spots of the Arab community in Los Angeles and it was there that Adel gave up wood cutting to become a musician. Over the protests of his mother, by all accounts a teetotaler, a strong moralist and a deeply religious woman who thought night clubs an unsuitable place for her children, Adel played the oud, an Arabian guitar, while the dancers writhed and twisted.

Adel even sneaked his younger brother, Sirhan, into the club a time or two to play the tamboura, a Middle Eastern drum; and even Mrs. Sirhan was persuaded to go there one recent evening, to sip Turkish coffee and watch the proceedings.

It was one of the family's infrequent encounters with the larger Arab-American community in Los Angeles, a community that saw them as outsiders and treated them as such.

Liked California Climate

Arab-Americans here, numbering from 10,000 persons to 30,000 families according to va-

ous estimates, are overwhelmingly Lebanese and overwhelmingly Christian. Most of them came here prior to World War I, when Syria and Lebanon were actually one country, as Christians fleeing persecution by the majority Moslems.

They picked Southern California because the climate was so like the one they had left behind, except that it was less humid and less extreme. Oranges, dates, poinsettias and palm trees, mountains and ocean and snow and desert all came close together here in the same way as there.

The second and third generations of these first immigrants are, in the words of Prof. Gustave von Grunebaum, an Arabic affairs specialist at the University of California at Los Angeles, "well-civilized, with a high percentage of the men in the professions, well-groomed, prosperous and not organized."

They are also passionately pro-American and English-speaking (even the monthly magazine "Pyramid" is not in Arabic except for one page). There are no Arab-American neighborhoods, few organizations outside the Syrian orthodox cathedral, no congregating places except for that church, only a few broadly Mediterranean restaurants — with approximately 50 per cent Jewish patronage — and of course the Fez.

There is an active Republican club, but most Arab-Americans here vote Democratic and seemed to be for Mr. Kennedy. The Arab student organizations quietly support anti-Israeli efforts in the Middle East. They are noisy or activist.

At a student rally last year at the cathedral St. Nicholas,

which helped raise \$10,000 and 20 tons of clothing for Arab refugees, Sirhan Sirhan "lurked alone in the shadow just as he did the night Kennedy was killed," said Father Paul Romley, dean of the cathedral.

Arrived After '56 Crises

As Jordanians (of which there are only 50 families in the area, according to the Lebanese consul, Wadih Dib), comparative latecomers and political refugees — they arrived just after the Suez crisis of 1956 — the Sirhans from the first did not belong to the greater community.

The family spoke Arabic at home, although the younger children learned English well. They never made the trip into Los Angeles to the Syrian church except for a few visits at the very beginning and, for Ayda, one at the very end. Father Romley buried her at Forest Lawn Cemetery after she died.

"They've always been humble and aloof," said Father Romley. And in an ethnic community that has prospered, and that has a predilection to take care of its own who have not, the Sirhans always seemed to be poor.

The Sirhans also clung to the dream of one day returning to Jordan, and only Said even tried to become an American citizen.

The rest of the community is glad to be Americanized and "grateful that we are here where there is opportunity and not back in the Middle East where there is nothing but trouble," in the words of Philip Zogaib, a Syrian-American who edits "The Pyramid."

And now the Sirhans are more estranged than ever.



Abdullah Schleifer for The New York Times

A street in Hart al-Sherif, Jerusalem. It was in this quarter that the Sirhans lived before coming to the U.S.



United Press International

Bishara Sirhan, the accused assassin's father.

Sirhan Granted 3 Weeks More to Enter Plea

By Joseph A. St. Amant
LOS ANGELES, June 28 (UPI)—Sirhan B. Sirhan, surrounded by guards in a jail chapel turned into a courtroom, today was granted an additional three weeks to enter his plea on charges he assassinated Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

The 24-year-old defendant displayed an icy calm when he appeared before Superior Court Judge Richard Schauer and spoke only a half-dozen words in response to questions from the court.

He showed a moment of nervousness when he entered the makeshift courtroom, flanked by five deputy sheriffs who towered over him. As he walked up a step to the counsel table Sirhan nervously stroked his upper lip with his right forefinger.

At the end of the nine-minute hearing he arose from the table and started to leave. He stumbled over the first step but recovered himself.

The motion for a continuance was made by Defense Counsel Russell E. Parsons, who pointed out that he was just recently named as attorney for Sirhan and had had only a limited time to study the case.

The Judge granted the continuance until July 19 at 9 A.M. and the District Attorney's office, represented by John Howard and David Fitts made no objection.

Sirhan was clad in a long-sleeved light blue shirt, open at the neck, black slacks and black shoes. His hair appeared to have been freshly cut.

After he sat down Judge Schauer asked, "Are you the defendant Sirhan B. Sirhan?" "Yes, sir," Sirhan replied in precise English.

Later in the proceedings, Judge Schauer explained

that time was running out on a 60-day time limit for bringing a defendant to trial after the date of indictment.

Parsons said he would waive the time limit and the Judge asked Sirhan if he agreed.

"Yes, sir, I do," said Sirhan after a whispered conference with Parsons.

The proceedings were witnessed by about 125 newsmen and a few members of the public. There were 12 uniformed deputies spaced about the chapel courtroom.

Sirhan's brother Adel, was also there, escorted by a half-dozen plainclothes sheriffs detectives.

No one was permitted to leave the courtroom until Sheriff Peter Pitchess returned to the room, indicating that Sirhan was back in his maximum security cell.

Newsmen and all other spectators were "frisked" on the way in. Their names were taken on a register at the ground floor waiting room.

Then they were escorted to the third floor and given another and more severe frisking in a mess hall near the chapel. Pen knives, fingernail clippers and any other potential weapons were held by deputies.

No cameras or recording equipment were allowed in the courtroom.

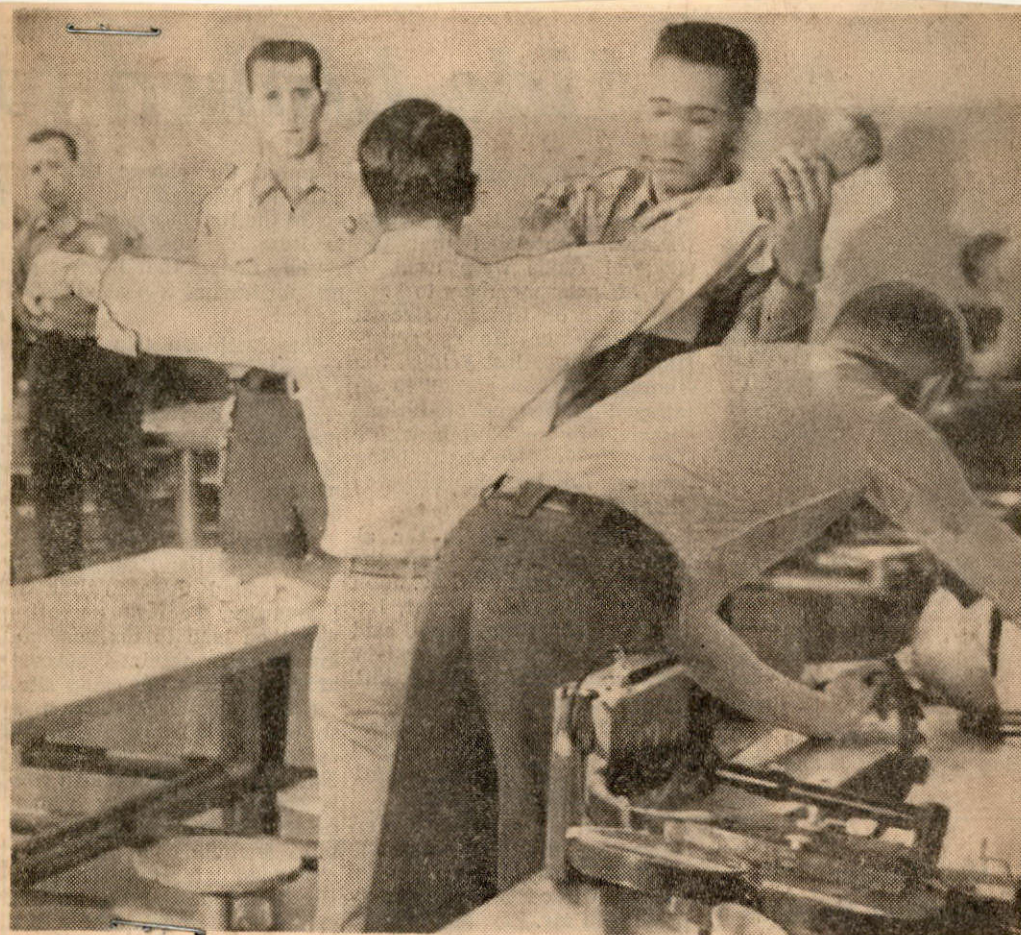
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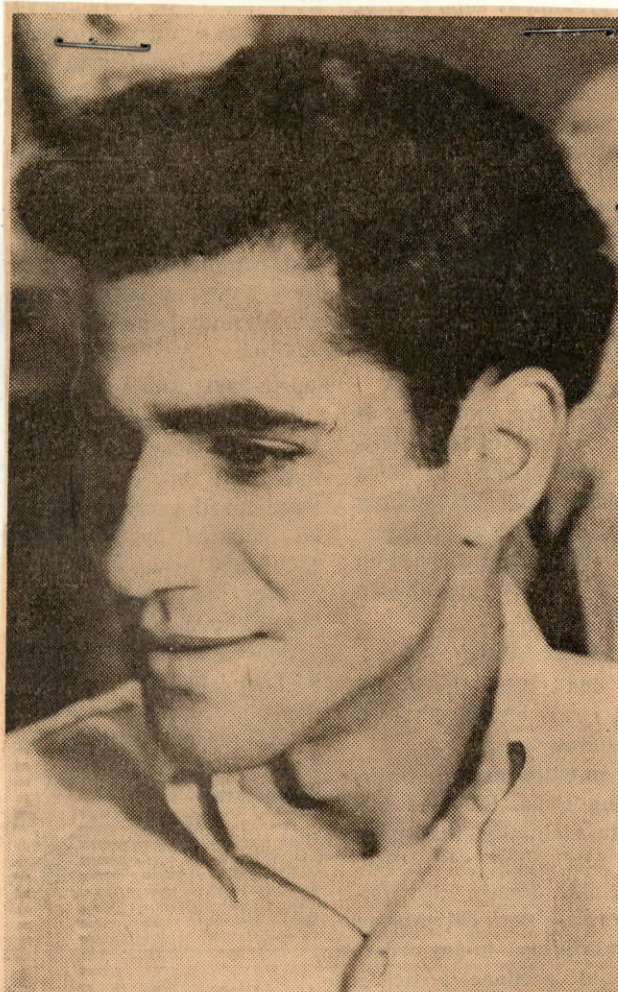


Newsman is searched for weapons inside Los Angeles County Jail chapel where hearing was

held for Sirhan B. Sirhan. At right, Sirhan, treated recently for a leg injury, is wheeled

out after winning delay. He got to his feet during hearing which took only nine minutes.

Associated Press-United Press International



Associated Press

Sirhan Wins More Time for Plea

Sirhan B. Sirhan, accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, displays faint smile after being granted three additional weeks in which to prepare his plea by Los Angeles judge. Story on Page A6. **A-1**

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Maneuvers May Stall Sirhan Trial to Fall

LOS ANGELES, June 29 (UPI) — Sirhan B. Sirhan yesterday won a three-week delay before he must enter a plea in the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. It was the first of an expected series of legal maneuvers which could delay his trial until fall.

Sirhan, 24, appeared calm at the nine-minute court hearing at which his attorney was granted the right to have the Jordanian, who is accused of Sen. Kennedy's murder, undergo psychiatric examination.

At the request of Russell E. Parsons, Superior Court Judge Richard Schauer appointed a psychiatrist to examine Sirhan. Results of the examination will be available only to Sirhan and his lawyer. It will be conducted by Dr. George Abe, of Metropolitan State Hospital at Norwalk.

INSANITY PLEA?

The judge ordered Dr. Abe's examination completed "at the earliest possible date." Mr. Parsons already has said he is exploring insanity as a possible defense for his client.

Parsons said Sirhan will be visited Monday by his mother, Mrs. Mary Sirhan, for the first time since his arrest.

Sirhan's family went into hiding under police protection after Sen. Kennedy's assassination. Mrs. Sirhan moved back to her home in suburban Pasadena a few days ago.

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A Faint Smile

For a moment, there was a trace of a smile on the lips of Sirhan B. Sirhan as he left an extraordinary court hearing held yesterday in the chapel of ~~the jail~~ where he is being held on charges of

assassinating Robert F. Kennedy. It lasted just nine minutes and thruout he maintained an icy calm. The court gave him three more weeks to enter his plea. (Story on Page 2.)

Sirhan Plea Off 3 Weeks

Los Angeles, June 28 (UPI)—Sirhan B. Sirhan, guarded so carefully he barely could be seen, was granted a three-week continuance today before he pleads to charges he killed Sen. Robert F. Kennedy and wounded five other persons.

Five burly deputies surrounded the 24-year-old Jordanian in a makeshift courtroom in the chapel of the new County Jail for a preliminary hearing before Superior Judge Richard Schauer.

The short defendant was hardly visible to newsmen with the deputies towering over him. He sat and sometimes stood during the nine-minute session and then was taken back to his cell in a wheelchair, presumably because of ankle and hand injuries suffered when he was subdued following the shooting of Kennedy at the Ambassador Hotel June 5.

The judge quickly granted the continuance until 9 a.m., July 19 at the request of Sirhan's new attorney, Russell E. Parsons.

Also at the request of Parsons, the judge appointed Dr. George Abe of Metropolitan State Hospital in Norwalk, Calif., to make psychiatric examination of Sirhan "as expeditiously as possible."

Results of Abe's tests will be available only to the defense—not even to the judge—to enable Parsons to decide whether to plead Sirhan insane.

The chapel, from which all religious symbols had been removed, has a capacity of about 400 persons. The hearing attracted 150 to 200 persons, including plainclothes detectives,

newsmen, attorneys and about a dozen other spectators.

One onlooker, guarded by seven plainclothes deputies, was the defendant's brother, Adel. The two did not exchange glances as the accused entered the room.



Sirhan Bishara Sirhan is accompanied by attorney Russell B. Parsons as he is wheeled to an elevator in Los Angeles County Central jail after hearing yesterday.

Associated Press Wirephoto

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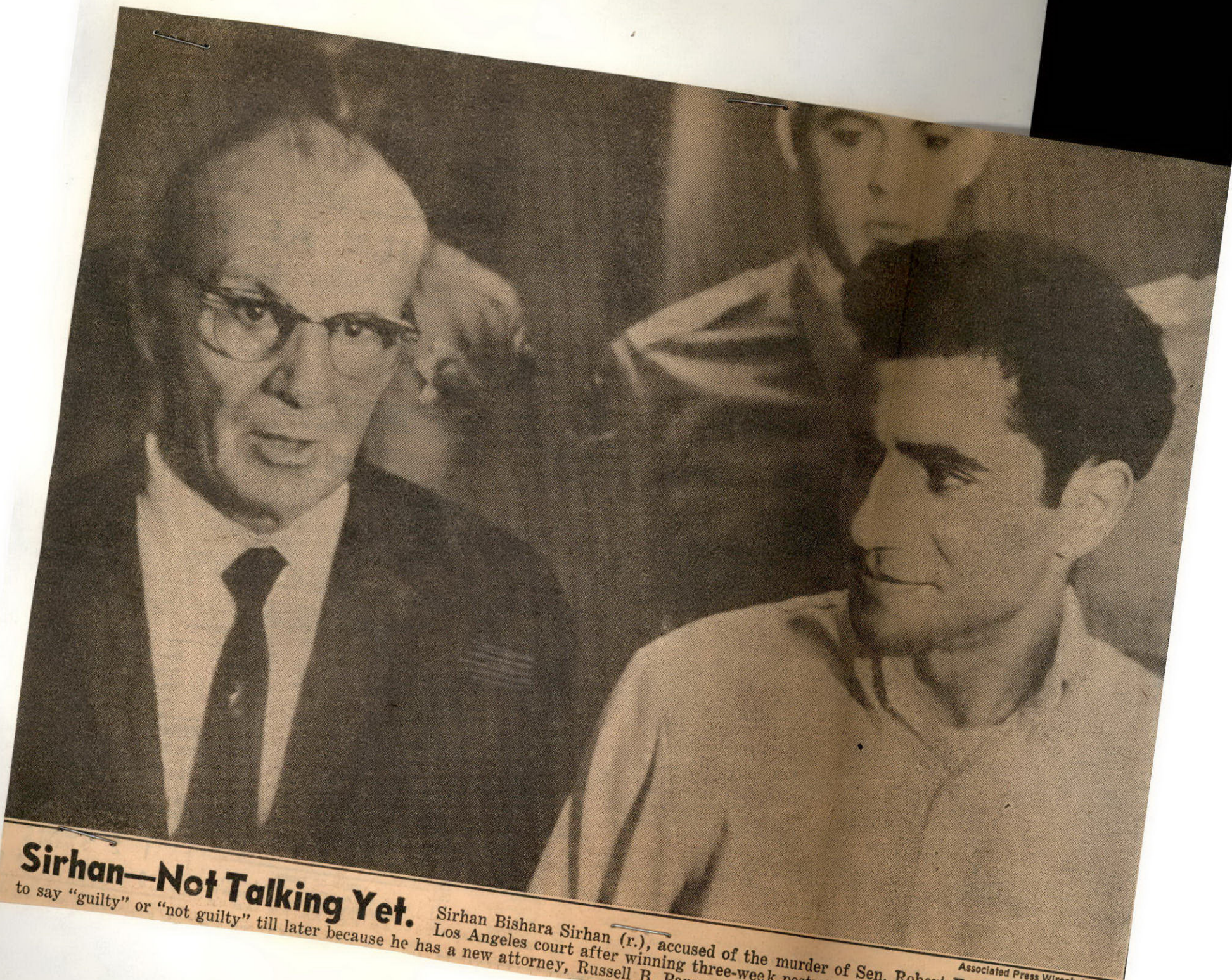
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Sirhan—Not Talking Yet.

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan (r.), accused of the murder of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, leaves Los Angeles court after winning three-week postponement of his plea. He won't have to say "guilty" or "not guilty" till later because he has a new attorney, Russell B. Parsons (l.)

Associated Press Wirephoto

—Story on page 2



—Associated Press

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, accused of killing Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, leaves the jail chapel in Los Angeles. His attorney, Russell E. Parsons (left), escorts him down the hall.

Sirhan Granted Delay; Mental Tests Slated A2

LOS ANGELES (UPI)—Sirhan Bishara Sirhan has won a three-week delay before he must enter a plea in the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Sirhan, 24, appeared calm at a 9-minute court hearing yesterday at which his attorney, Russell E. Parsons, was granted the right to have the Jordanian, who is accused of Kennedy's murder, undergo psychiatric examination.

At the request of Parsons, Superior Court Judge Richard Schauer appointed a psychiatrist to examine Sirhan. Results of the examination will be avail-

able only to Sirhan and his lawyer. It will be conducted by Dr. George Abe, of Metropolitan State Hospital at Norwalk.

The judge ordered the examination completed "at the earliest possible date." Parsons already has said he is exploring insanity as a possible defense for his client.

Parsons said Sirhan will be visited Monday by his mother, Mrs. Mary Sirhan, for the first time since his arrest.

Sirhan's family went into hiding under police protection after Kennedy's assassination. Mrs. Sirhan moved back to her home in suburban Pasadena a few days ago.

The darkhaired Jordanian's brother, Adel, was in the court room yesterday, but the brothers did not look at one another.

Parsons' request for a three-week continuance—until July 19—was the first in an anticipated series of delaying maneuvers that may postpone Sir-

han's trial until after the November general election.

The attorney told the judge he needed more time to study the transcript of the grand jury hearing which resulted in Sirhan's indictment.

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Sirhan Entering of Plea Is Delayed 3 Weeks

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Sirhan Bishara Sirhan today was granted an additional three weeks to enter his plea on charges he assassinated Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

The 24-year-old defendant displayed in icy calm when he appeared before Superior Court Judge Richard Schauer. He spoke only half a dozen words in response to questions from the court.

He showed a moment of nervousness when he entered the makeshift courtroom, formerly a jail chapel, flanked by five deputy sheriffs who towered over him.

The motion for a continuance was made by defense counsel Russel E. Parsons, who pointed out that he was just recently named as attorney for Sirhan and had only a limited time to study the case.

The judge granted the continuance until July 19. The district

attorney's office made no objection.

At the request of defense counsel, the court appointed Dr. George Y. Abe of the metropolitan state hospital to give Sirhan a "general psychiatric examination."

The continuance meant Sirhan may not be tried until September and possibly even until after the November elections.

Sirhan has selected as his courtroom attorney Grant Cooper, the lawyer who defended Dr. Bern-

ard Finch in the sensational Finch-Tregoff murder trials.

Former president of the Los Angeles Bar Association and one of the West Coast's top criminal attorneys, Cooper agreed to serve without fee in fulfillment of a "duty" to see that Sirhan receives a fair trial and competent defense.

Parsons, a veteran of almost 50 years' experience specializing in appeal cases, previously was retained as the attorney of record for the Jordanian immigrant.

Cooper will enter the case after representing a defendant in a case charging that millionaire Harry Karl and entertainers Phil Silvers, Tony Martin and Zeppo Marx were cheated of thousands of dollars in card games at the Los Angeles Friars Club.

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Sirhan Picks Cooper, Noted Criminal Lawyer

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Accused assassin Sirhan Bishara Sirhan has selected as his courtroom attorney Grant Cooper, the lawyer who defended Dr. Bernard Finch in the sensational Finch-Tregoff murder trials.

Former president of the Los Angeles Bar Association and one of the West Coast's top criminal attorneys, Cooper agreed to serve without fee in fulfillment of a "duty" to see that Sirhan receives a fair trial and competent defense against the charge of murdering Sen. Robert F. Kennedy here on June 5.

Russell E. Parsons, a veteran of almost 50 years' experience specializing in appeal cases, previously was retained as the attorney of record for the 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant.

Cooper will enter the case after representing a defendant in a case charging that millionaire Harry Karl and entertainers Phil Silvers, Tony Martin and Zeppo Marx were cheated of thousands of dollars in card games at the Los Angeles Friars Club.

Cooper will join Parsons at the conclusion of the Friars Club trial. The news of his affiliation with the Sirhan case leaked out prematurely last night.

Cooper, who got two hung juries before Finch and his red-haired mistress, Carole Tregoff, were convicted in 1961 of the murder of the doctor's wife, feared disclosure he would represent Sirhan might prejudice the jury against his client in the Friars Club trial.

Parsons was to represent Sirhan today at a hearing in a heavily guarded courtroom. Sirhan was expected to ask for a delay of his trial — which now appears unlikely to begin until September.



—UPI

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SIRHAN 6/28 NX

LOS ANGELES (UPI)--SIRHAN B. SIRHAN, WHO WITNESSES SAID WAITED IN A HOTEL PANTRY AND FIRED THREE SHOTS INTO SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, APPEARS TODAY IN A MAKESHIFT COURTROOM TO ANSWER FIRST DEGREE MURDER CHARGES.

INSTEAD OF ENTERING A PLEA AS SCHEDULED (AT 9 A.M. PDT, 12 NOON EDT), DEFENSE ATTORNEY RUSSELL E. PARSONS WAS EXPECTED TO SEEK A THREE-WEEK CONTINUANCE SO HE AND A NEW DEFENSE ATTORNEY CAN STUDY THE CASE.

PARSONS ALSO MAY REQUEST ADDITIONAL PSYCHIATRIC TESTS FOR THE 24-YEAR-OLD DEFENDANT POSSIBLY TO BOLSTER A PLEA OF INNOCENT BY REASON OF INSANITY.

A CONTINUANCE WOULD RESULT IN SIRHAN NOT ENTERING A PLEA BEFORE JULY 19. THE SERIES OF LEGAL MANEUVERS PROBABLY COULD DELAY THE START OF THE ACTUAL TRIAL UNTIL SOMETIME IN SEPTEMBER.

SIRHAN REPORTEDLY WILL HAVE THE AID OF ATTORNEY GRANT B. COOPER, ONE OF THE TOP CRIMINAL LAWYERS ON THE WEST COAST.

COOPER THURSDAY DENIED THE REPORT HE WOULD JOIN THE CASE BUT OTHER SOURCES CONFIRMED THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE LOS ANGELES BAR ASSOCIATION HAD AGREED TO SERVE WITHOUT FEE.

THE SITE OF TODAY'S PROCEEDINGS WAS THE SAME JAIL CELL CHAPEL WHERE THE BLACKHAired JORDANIAN IMMIGRANT WAS ARRAIGNED JUNE 7 ON THE GRAND JURY INDICTMENT CHARGING HIM WITH THE KENNEDY SLAYING AND THE WOUNDING OF FIVE OTHER PERSONS.

THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT HAS RECEIVED MORE THAN 50 THREATS ON THE LIFE OF SIRHAN AND HIS LAWYER. ONLY THURSDAY, FOUR MEN WERE ARRESTED FOR CARRYING EXPLOSIVES ONTO THE GROUNDS OF THE JAIL.

THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE, HOWEVER, SAID "THE ARRESTS WERE IN NO WAY CONNECTED WITH SIRHAN."

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SIRHAN 6/27 HC
 1ST NIGHT LD 248A

BY JOSEPH A. ST. AMANT

LOS ANGELES (UPI)--SIRHAN B. SIRHAN, WHO REPORTEDLY WILL HAVE THE LEGAL AID OF GRANT B. COOPER, ONE OF THE NATION'S ABLEST CRIMINAL LAWYERS, GOES INTO A MAKESHIFT COURTROOM FRIDAY TO ANSWER CHARGES HE FIRED A FATAL BULLET INTO THE BRAIN OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY AND WOUNDED FIVE OTHER PERSONS.

IT WAS REPORTED THAT COOPER WOULD JOIN ATTORNEY RUSSELL E. PARSONS IN DEFENDING SIRHAN AS SOON AS COOPER WINDS UP A CURRENT TRIAL IN WHICH FIVE PERSONS WERE ACCUSED OF CHEATING MEMBERS OF THE FRIARS CLUB OUT OF MORE THAN \$400,000 IN ALLEGEDLY CROOKED CARD GAMES.

HOWEVER, COOPER DENIED THE REPORT THAT HE WOULD HELP PARSONS DEFEND SIRHAN.

SIRHAN WAS DUE TO ENTER A PLEA TO THE CHARGES FRIDAY, BUT PARSONS PLANNED TO SEEK A THREE-WEEK CONTINUANCE SO HE CAN STUDY ALL PHASES OF THE CASE, INCLUDING THE GRAND JURY TRANSCRIPT.

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JAIL 6/27 HC

LOS ANGELES (UPI)--FOUR YOUNG MEN WERE ARRESTED THURSDAY FOR CARRYING EXPLOSIVES ONTO THE GROUNDS OF THE COUNTY JAIL WHERE THE ACCUSED SLAYER OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, SIRHAN B. SIRHAN IS HOUSED.

HOWEVER, A SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN SAID "THE ARRESTS WERE IN NO WAY CONNECTED WITH SIRHAN."

ROBERT GLASS, 18, JAMES NEAL DEAGUSTINE, 18, MARK WILMOT, 17, ALL OF REDONDO BEACH, CALIF., AND ROBERT YOUNG, 20, OF TORRANCE, CALIF., WERE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY WHEN A ROUTINE SEARCH OF THEIR CAR PRODUCED TWO "ARTILLERY GROUND BURST SIMULATORS."

DEPUTIES SAID THE DEVICES WERE OF THE TYPE COMMONLY USED BY THE MILITARY DURING FIELD TRAINING PROBLEMS AND WERE CONSIDERED DANGEROUS WITHIN A RADIUS OF 15 YARDS. A QUANTITY OF MARIJUANA WAS ALSO FOUND IN THE CAR.

THE FOUR WERE BOOKED ON CHARGES OF POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA AND BRINGING EXPLOSIVES ONTO JAIL GROUNDS.

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UPI-52

(SIRHAN)

LOS ANGELES--SIRHAN SIRHAN'S NEW ATTORNEY WILL ASK FOR A THREE-WEEK CONTINUANCE IN THE SEN. KENNEDY ASSASSINATION CASE WHEN HIS CLIENT APPEARS IN COURT TOMORROW.

THE 24-YEAR-OLD DEFENDANT WAS SCHEDULED TO ENTER A PLEA TO THE FATAL SHOOTING OF KENNEDY AND THE WOUNDING OF FIVE OTHER PERSONS WHICH WAS DEFERRED AT HIS ARRAIGNMENT JUNE 7.

RUSSELL E. PARSONS, CONSIDERED ONE OF CALIFORNIA'S TOP APPELLATE LAWYERS, SAID HE WOULD ASK FOR THE CONTINUANCE SO HE COULD STUDY ALL PHASES OF THE CASE AGAINST HIS CLIENT.

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UPI-162

(SIRHAN)

LOS ANGELES--SIRHAN B. SIRHAN, THE JORDANIAN NATIVE SUSPECTED OF FIRING A FATAL BULLET INTO THE BRAIN OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY, HAS HIS NEXT DAY IN COURT FRIDAY.

SIRHAN, 24, WAS SCHEDULED TO ENTER A PLEA TO CHARGES HE KILLED THE NEW YORK DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL HOPEFUL AND WOUNDED FIVE OTHER PERSONS.

BUT THERE WAS SPECULATION THAT INSTEAD HIS NEWLY-APPOINTED ATTORNEY WOULD SEEK A CONTINUANCE TO STUDY THE VOLUMINOUS COUNTY GRAND JURY TRANSCRIPT OF THE HEARING THAT LED TO SIRHAN'S INDICTMENT.

IT ALSO WAS BELIEVED THAT THE ATTORNEY, RUSSEL E. PARSONS, WOULD SEEK APPOINTMENT OF A SECOND PSYCHIATRIST TO EXAMINE SIRHAN.

THE SUPERIOR COURT EARLIER APPOINTED TWO PSYCHIATRISTS TO INTERVIEW THE DEFENDANT IN COUNTY JAIL, BUT ONE OF THEM, DR. EDWARD STAINBROOK, DECLINED.

THE OTHER PSYCHIATRIST, DR. ERIC MARCUS, ALREADY HAS EXAMINED SIRHAN.

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SIRHAN 6/27 HC

SUB 10TH PGH NIGHT LD SIRHAN LOS ANGELES 248A STARTING: AN ADDITIONAL DELAY.

AN ADDITIONAL DELAY WAS EXPECTED WHEN ATTORNEY GRANT B. COOPER, WHO DEFENDED DR. R. BERNARD FINCH IN ONE OF THE NATION'S MOST SENSATIONAL MURDER CASES, JOINS PARSONS IN SIRHAN'S DEFENSE.

THE NEWS COOPER WOULD BE CODEFENSE COUNSEL LEAKED OUT PREMATURELY WHILE HE WAS BUSY IN ANOTHER TRIAL. HOWEVER, HE LABELED THE REPORTS HE WOULD HELP DEFEND SIRHAN AS "DEFINITELY, POSITIVELY, UNEQUIVOCALLY UNTRUE."

PICKUP 11TH PGH 248A: THUS, THE BEST
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COOPER 6/27 HC

SUB 2ND PGH COOPER LOS ANGELES 284A STARTING: GRANT COOPER, FORMER GRANT COOPER, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE LOS ANGELES BAR ASSOCIATION AND ONE OF THE WEST COAST'S TOP CRIMINAL ATTORNEYS, REPORTEDLY AGREED TO SERVE WITHOUT FEE IN FULFILLMENT OF A DUTY TO SEE THAT SIRHAN RECEIVES A FAIR TRIAL AND COMPETENT DEFENSE OF THE CHARGE OF THE MURDER OF SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

HOWEVER, COOPER DENIED THE REPORT, SAYING IT WAS "DEFINITELY, POSITIVELY, UNEQUIVOCALLY UNTRUE."

PICKUP 3RD PGH 284A: RUSSELL E. PARSONS
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UPI-142

(SIRHAN)

LOS ANGELES--A BULLETPROOF ENCLOSURE TO PROTECT SIRHAN B. SIRHAN AND POSSIBLY EVEN THE JUDGE AND JURY AT HIS TRIAL ON CHARGES HE ASSASSINATED SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY WAS ORDERED CONSTRUCTED TODAY BY COUNTY SUPERVISORS.

SUPERVISOR KENNETH HAHN SAID THE COUNTY MECHANICAL DEPARTMENT PLANS TO START BUILDING THE ENCLOSURE, WHICH COULD COST UP TO \$20,000, FRIDAY UNLESS SIRHAN'S ATTORNEY OBTAINS A CHANGE OF VENUE ON THAT DAY.

HAHN SAID PRESIDING SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE DONALD R. WRIGHT REQUESTED THE PROTECTIVE DEVICE AND ASKED THAT A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE ENCLOSURE NOT BE MADE PUBLIC.

HOWEVER, HAHN SAID THE ENCLOSURE WOULD BE BUILT OF ARMOR PLATING AND ARMORED GLASS. INDICATIONS WERE THAT IT MIGHT PROTECT THE DEFENDANT, JUDGE, JURY AND ATTORNEYS.

HAHN SAID THE ENCLOSURE WOULD BE BUILT UNDER THE DIRECTION OF JUDGE WRIGHT AND SHERIFF PETER PITCHESS.

COUNTY WORKMEN ALREADY WERE BUSY INSTALLING ELABORATE SECURITY DEVICES IN THE HALL OF JUSTICE, WHERE IT IS BELIEVED SIRHAN WILL BE TRIED.

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DEATH WAS NEARBY—Just one hour before he was slain by an assassin's bullet Look magazine captured this poignant picture of Senator Robert F. Kennedy with his son Michael, 10, on his lap watching the California election returns on TV. The photograph appears with an article in the current issue of Look. When Look staffers chided Sen. Kennedy about his

indifference to protection, he replied: "Oh, hell, you can't worry about that. Look at their faces. These people don't want to hurt me. They just want to see me and touch me. And if there is somebody out there who wants to get me, well, doing anything in public life today is Russian roulette."

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BREAD UPON WATERS — Juan Romero, 17-year-old busboy who tried to aid mortally wounded Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, holds two crucifixes sent him to replace the rosary he

gave the Senator. His two brothers help sort out some of the mail — and there has been much of it — commending him for his thoughtfulness at a time of crisis.

—UPI Photo

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But Resenting Authority

Neighbors Recall Sirhan as Shy, Polite

By George Lardner, Jr.
 Washington Post Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES — To his neighbors in Pasadena, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan was simply the shy but bright boy next door who lived with his mother and two of his brothers.

He has been indicted for first-degree murder in the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. What stands out in Miss Ann Sylvan's mind are Sirhan's "wonderful manners."

On East Howard street, a polyglot stretch of low-income homes, Sirhan was always like that, impeccably polite, speaking when spoken to, smiling when smiled at.

The most daring thing he seems to have done was to toss sticks and stones at Bert, the household collie next door.

"I think it was Bert's barking," a neighbor said, sympathetically.

Other than that, Sirhan outwardly contented himself with frequent visits to the library and occasionally a game of Chinese checkers with the elderly women a house away. Within a fortnight of the assassination, he asked Mrs. Martin Pulite across the street how to plant a garden for his mother.

Yet jotted down in a loose-leaf notebook in his house apparently around the same time, or perhaps several days earlier, was the

injunction: "Kennedy must be assassinated before June 5"—the first anniversary of the Arab-Israeli war.

Mrs. Pulite summed up one view of the dichotomy, this way:

The Monday evening before the assassination, she had been on her way to give a plant from her well-manicured garden to another neighbor. Mrs. Pulite decided to visit Sirhan's mother, Mary, first.

Sirhan, she said, was home. He asked her all about the flower.

Mrs. Pulite put her hands to her head. One night, a flower, she sighed. The next night, "pazzo" (crazy).

The contradictions show up, too, at the health food store a few blocks away where Sirhan worked diligently last fall and winter before quitting March 7 in an argument over delivery schedules that ended when owner John H. Weidner called police.

As a \$2 an hour stock clerk and delivery boy, Sirhan chatted often with customers and fellow workers. Generous with the hard-earned pay, he secretly used to pay the bills of one elderly customer who couldn't afford all the health food he liked to buy.

But the young Jordanian immigrant, says Weidner, also resented authority, a tendency that perhaps had its roots in the strict discipli-

pline of his father who once reportedly held a hot iron to the boy's feet.

At the health food store, says customer Art Bean, "when the boss came around, he'd drop the conversation just like he'd been whipped."

"He had this attitude of rebellion against society," says Weidner. "Most of all, he was anti-Israeli."

Weidner's wife, Naomi, recalls one conversation earlier this year vividly. Sirhan was bitter about last year's June war. Mrs. Weidner recalled the Nazi atrocities against the Jews in World War II.

Suddenly, she says, Sirhan blurted out: "Don't you think the Jews can be cruel? I'm going to tell you something I've never told anyone else, not even my parents."

Sirhan claimed, as a little boy, to have seen an Israeli soldier mutilate an Arab woman.

But in Taibeh, in occupied Jordan, his father, Bishara (the name means "good news"), has said his son had never even seen any Israeli soldiers in the long-ago fighting when Sirhan was just about four.

Real or imagined, the repressions seem to have had no outlet.

Sirhan kept to himself. He neither smoked nor drank, according to neighbors and acquaintances. If he had any close friends, boy or girl, they have yet to be found. He used to go to the race tracks but usually with his brothers. Occasionally, he

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United Press International
BISHARA SIRHAN
... harsh father

dropped in at the Fez nightclub, but its owners say, "with his mother or brothers."

Classmates at Pasadena's John Muir High School recall Sirhan as generally quiet and introspective, but relatively outspoken on ethnic issues and individual rights.

A member of the junior and senior student class councils, Sirhan helped draft a proposed constitution for the junior class that school officials thought went too far.

Authority won out. The constitution was voted down, quite possibly by the upper middle-class white youngsters from La Canada who looked down on the growing numbers of Negroes, Orientals and Mexican-Americans at the school.

To John McGrain, a 22-year-old social worker who was president of the junior class council that included Sirhan, he was "definitely the kind of guy who would make a model citizen. This is the puzzle. What happened?"

Sirhan's mother, Mary, a \$195-a-month housekeeper at a nearby church nursery school, has been asking herself the same question.

Those who have seen her since the initial shock of the assassination say that she has been grasping at Sirhan's fall from a horse 20 months ago as the explanation.

Sirhan, who wanted to be a jockey, took the spill Sept. 25, 1966, while he was "breezing a filly" at a race horse ranch near Corona where he was working. His mother has been reported as saying he was never quite the same after that.

Sirhan claimed an injury that affected his eyesight. A neurosurgeon who examined him a year later, Dr. Forrest L. Johnson, found "no evidence of a neurological problem at this time."

But less than two months before the assassination, Sirhan collected \$1705 of a \$2000 compromise settlement (the rest went for costs such as doctor's bills and attorney's fees).

The same reported pattern—accident, personality change, then attempted violence—curiously seems to have afflicted his brother, Sharif, 34.

Until an auto accident in

May of 1963, Sharif was a gregarious, hard-working bookkeeper in Los Angeles with the Southern California State Baptist Convention.

After the accident, where he sustained whiplash injuries to his back, neck and head, Sharif seemed to "withdraw from the group and from society," says his former supervisor, George Matas. "He complained of headaches, said his eyes hurt. His work deteriorated. We finally had to let him go."

For Sharif, the climax came when he was arrested in December 1963—the same month he was dismissed—after breaking up with his girl friend. It was said he cut the brake lines of her car and put gunpower in the manifold. Convicted of tampering with an auto, Sharif drew a year's probation.

That Sirhan's accident may have affected his behavior can be counted at this point only as maternal conjecture. It may even be questioned whether Mary Sirhan really knew her children. She was apparently unaware her only daughter was married until the girl's funeral several years ago.

But it seems apparent that resentment of Israel and Robert F. Kennedy's support of military aid for the country is hardly enough to explain the assassination of which he stands indicted. Virtually every Arab and Arab-American waxes bitter about Israel. There is only one Sirhan Bishara Sirhan.

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Sirhan's Church Quest Fruitless, Cleric Says

By RUSSELL CHANDLER
 Star Staff Writer

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, the man charged with assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, kept searching for a religious meaning which he apparently never found attending a succession of Southern California churches, according to a long-time minister acquaintance of his mother, Mrs. Mary Sirhan.

Dr. Ben T. Cowles, director of the Westminster Presbyterian Counseling Service in Pasadena, Calif., said the Sirhan family brought its Christian faith to America 11 years ago but tried church after church without being reached or settling down. Cowles and the Rev. Harry Eberts, minister of Westminster Presbyterian Church, broke the news of the arrest of the 24-year-old Sirhan to his mother. Mrs. Sirhan has been employed in the church nursery school for 13 years and sometimes attends services there.

Cowles, in a telephone interview, said of the family: "They were estranged within themselves. They never made an entrance into the church or American society."

He described the accused assassin, an emigrant from Jordan, as "thoughtful and serious-minded. He was searching for something." Cowles said the traditional church "didn't realize the depth of his need."

Sirhan, while in his teens, attended a Pasadena church where he sometimes went to Sunday school and youth meetings. The family had attended a Greek Orthodox Church in Los Angeles, but transportation became a problem, Cowles related.

The mother and father and two youngest children went to Pasadena 11 years ago under the sponsorship of still another church — First Nazarene. Members there say the family attended for only about one month. In 1957 the father returned to Jordan.

The two oldest boys, Saidallah and Shareff, went to Pasadena several months later under sponsorship of the Baptist Church.

Eberts said Mrs. Sirhan "is a woman to whom her Christian faith is part of the center core of her being. She knows her Bible well enough that biblical words and phrases seem to come naturally in her conversation. She is perfectly appalled at this act and unable to understand its genesis."

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2 Tales of Girl in Polka Dots:

One Stands, One Falls

By WILLIAM FEDERICI

The intense investigation into a possible conspiracy surrounding the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy took a bizarre turn yesterday.

Although Los Angeles police canceled a nationwide hunt for the girl in the polka dot dress, saying the girl "was the figment of the imagination of an overwrought Kennedy campaign worker," police refused to comment on or discredit testimony of an eyewitness who described the same girl as standing next to Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, who is accused of firing the fatal shots in the kitchen pantry of the Ambassador Hotel on June 5.

Calls Report Erroneous

Assistant Chief of Detectives John Powers said yesterday:

"The young girl (Sandra Serrano) who reported seeing the brunette in the polka dot dress running from the hotel shouting 'We killed Kennedy!' was erroneous in her report. She was overwrought and overexcited."

Powers refused to comment on testimony given to the grand jury that indicted 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant Sirhan by Vincent DiPierro, a part-time waiter at the hotel.

DiPierro, 19, a freshman at Santa Monica City College, said yesterday: "I am standing by my testimony. I can't change it. I only told what I saw. She may have been just standing next to him, but they were smiling at each other. He may have been flirting with her. I don't know."

Many Girls in Polka Dots

Authorities say that the Embassy Room in the hotel was "filled with girls with polka dot dresses."

Police gave no explanation for the conversation that Miss Serrano said she had with the young girl in polka dots as she ran exuberantly shouting to a man who joined her: "We killed Kennedy."

Girl Ignored by Jury

Miss Serrano, 20, a Youth-for-Kennedy volunteer from Altadena, Cal., said she ran alongside the girl and asked "Who did you shoot?" and the polka dot girl

answered, "We just shot Sen. Kennedy."

On Miss Sarrano's report, an all-points police alarm was issued hours after the slaying. Despite this, the young Kennedy volunteer was never asked to testify before the grand jury.

Meanwhile, investigators continued the hunt for two Arabic-speaking men reportedly seen with Sirhan two days before the killing discussing how they could "get" Kennedy. Police refused comment on the investigation.

Both Sirhan's lawyer, Russell H. Parsons, and Chief of Police Tom Reddin have reported receiving threats against their lives. Police have taken precautions in both cases.

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RFK 'Plots' Crumble, But Rumors Persist

By George Lardner Jr.
 Washington Post Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES, June 22—Hemmed in by the mountains, the smog hovers over Los Angeles like a giant poison bubble. The rumors hinting of a conspiracy in the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy are even thicker.

One by one, they are proving to be false.

But those who originate and spread the stories remain apparently unaware of the real facts that show them to be spurious.

Investigators are squelching the rumors largely under the enforced silence of a court order, designed to insure Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, the 24-year-old accused assassin a fair trial.

At the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club, where Sirhan was seen practicing with a .22-caliber revolver less than 12 hours before the assassination, Cashier David Buckner has told investigators, and presumably others, that he saw "a woman and another guy" with Sirhan at the gun range that day.

In suburban Alhambra not far away, at a neighborhood bar decorated with prints of rear-view nudes, the two brothers who own the place have talked to FBI agents and Los Angeles detectives at length.

They have been told to keep quiet, but the customers at the Golden Garter have not. Sirhan, it is said, was at the watering spot several times with a friend named "Jim" and perhaps Jim's girl friend, "Karen."

Jim, it is added darkly, has dropped out of sight.

The whispered talk is honest believed. But The Washington Post has learned that at the gun club, a woman who turned up at the practice range did talk with Sirhan. The man she came with her husband, was farther away, practicing by himself. She was left a couple of spaces away from Sirhan with a pistol she didn't know how to shoot.

So she asked him. Always polite, Sirhan obliged. He even let her fire a couple of rounds on his Iver-Johnson .22. But neither the woman nor her husband would have known him if he were King Hussein.

Cashier Buckner, however, remains apparently unenlightened. The rumor spreads.

Fanning out from the Golden Garter, investigators have also found "Jim" and his swarthy friends. It is not Sirhan.

But no one has told the bar's proprietors, Carl and J. Andy Martigani, much less the customers. The talk goes on. Some embellish it. By now, in some minds, the phantom Sirhan associated with "Jim" has acquired a phantom girl friend, "with the sexiest figure you ever saw."

Visions of "polka dot girls" spring up in response.

Police still believe there is a "polka dot girl" to be found—though not the one initially reported to them.

Miss Sandy Serrano, a 20-year-old Youth for Kennedy volunteer from Altadena, had told newsmen that she had seen a dark-haired girl

In a white dress with polka dots run from the Ambassador Hotel shortly after the shooting and shout shot him.

With her, Miss Serrano had said, was a man who appeared to be of Latin extrac-

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Police Friday canceled the all-points bulletin for Miss Serrano's "polka dot" girl, concluding that she had been "overwrought." It was learned that Miss Serrano had been invited to take a lie detector test, but at least initially, she declined.

Not all reports of "polka dot" girls have been discarded, however. Vincent DiPierre, who testified before the Los Angeles County Grand Jury, told of seeing Sirhan exchanging smiles with such a girl moments before the shooting.

Detectives and presumably FBI agents believe him. Asked how this could be squared with the cancellation of the all-points bulletin based on Miss Serrano's initial report, one source replied simply that "it isn't the same girl."

Investigators have also yet to confirm or discount reports that two men were with Sirhan when he bought ammunition at a San Gabriel gun shop the Friday before the June 5 shooting.

Even so, they point out that it takes more than

a smile to make a conspiracy. Other sources add that the proprietors of the gun shop were somewhat "less positive" in talking to the police than they were with the press about seeing Sirhan with two men.

Other allegations have been squelched, but again in a secrecy that fails to counter their circulation and the currency that rumors gain with widespread repetition. Los Angeles has enough to feed every sort of preconceived notion.

Mayor Sam Yorty, never known for his reticence in public speaking, has loudly charged that communism was behind the assassination.

Across town, near Hollywood and Vine, one Arab-American businessman whispers to another that he has "the real story." Sirhan, he confides darkly was a secret agent, "paid by the Zionists" to blacken the name of the Arab world.

The "Zionist plot" story appears to have its origins in the self-defense mechanisms in the Middle East where it first surfaced.

Yorty's charge appears to have been simply a wild swing from right field.

Alleging that "evil Communist organizations" inflamed Sirhan, Yorty declared that the suspected assassin's car had been spotted near a building where the radical left-wing W. E. B. DuBois Club was holding a meeting.

What Yorty did not disclose was that the meeting had been held more than two years ago—March 4, 1966. Sirhan was never seen inside the DuBois Club. The car was his brother Adel's.

Beyond that, probably most Arabs and Arab-Americans in Los Angeles have parked near the building at one time or another. The Fez—a Middle Eastern belly-dance palace (for the whole family)—is right down the street. Sirhan's brother Adel used to play a guitar-like instrument called the oud there every night.

Yorty's charge, however, was made before Superior Court Judge Arthur L. Alarcon handed down the court order aimed at banning most out-of-court statements to the media about the case. By then, many of the rumors were already afloat. The facts have been harder to come by.

Beneath the surface, however, investigators—while still not ruling out the possibility of a conspiracy—have yet to find any genuine evidence of one. Sirhan himself, and what drove him to the Ambassador Hotel, still pose the biggest enigma.

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LOS ANGELES (UPI)--A NEW LAWYER TOOK OVER THE DEFENSE OF THE ACCUSED ASSASSIN SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY THURSDAY AND SAID HE IS EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITY OF GETTING SIRHAN B. SIRHAN DEPORTED OR DECLARED INSANE.

"SOMEONE MUST DEFEND THIS MAN," SAID RUSSELL E. PARSONS, 69, A CRUSTY VETERAN OF MANY MURDER TRIALS. "I WILL DO THE BEST I CAN. EVERY MAN, NO MATTER WHO HE IS, IS ENTITLED TO THE BEST DEFENSE."

PARSONS FORMALLY BECAME THE 24-YEAR-OLD JORDANIAN'S LAWYER BY PRESENTING SUPERIOR COURT JUDGE RICHARD SCHAUER WITH A REQUEST, SIGNED BY SIRHAN, THAT HE BE RETAINED. UP TILL THEN, SIRHAN'S ATTORNEY OF RECORD HAD BEEN WILBUR LITTLEFIELD, A CHIEF TRIAL DEPUTY FOR THE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE.

MEANWHILE, SHERIFF PETER J. PITCHESS LAID DOWN ONE NEW RULE FOR SIRHAN, HELD UNDER HEAVY GUARD AT THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY JAIL. HE SAID THAT WHEN SIRHAN RECEIVES VISITS FROM FELLOW JORDANIANS HE MUST TALK TO THEM IN ENGLISH--NOT HIS NATIVE ARABIC.

PITCHESS REVEALED THAT SIRHAN WAS INTERVIEWED TUESDAY BY THE JORDANIAN CONSUL IN LOS ANGELES,

PITCHESS REVEALED THAT SIRHAN WAS INTERVIEWED TUESDAY BY THE JORDANIAN CONSUL IN LOS ANGELES, GEORGE ZRAIKAT. LITTLEFIELD, WHO WAS STILL SIRHAN'S ATTORNEY AT THE TIME, ATTENDED THE MEETING.

"CONSUL ZRAIKAT EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE PHYSICAL ARRANGEMENTS OF SIRHAN'S CONFINEMENT," PITCHESS SAID. "HE PRAISED THE SECURITY MEASURES TAKEN BY THE SHERIFF TO INSURE THE SAFETY OF THE DEFENDANT."

HE SAID JORDANIAN DIPLOMATS HAD COMPLAINED TO THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT THAT THE INTERVIEW WITH ZRAIKAT WAS IN ENGLISH.

PITCHESS SAID THE JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT ASKED THAT A REPRESENTATIVE OF ITS CHICAGO CONSULATE BE ALLOWED TO INTERVIEW SIRHAN IN ARABIC. THE SHERIFF SAID HE REJECTED THE REQUEST FOR "SECURITY REASONS."

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Jordan Is Denied Talk With Sirhan

LOS ANGELES, June 20 (AP)—A request by the Jordanian government for an interview in Arabic with Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, who is accused of killing Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, has been rejected by Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess.

Pitchess said today an interview with the 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant must be in English "for security reasons."

The interview was sought after Jordan officials had expressed dissatisfaction with an earlier talk in English between Sirhan and George Zraikat, a local representative of Jordan.

Zraikat and Deputy Public Defender Wilbur Littlefield visited Sirhan in his cell last Tuesday, the sheriff said. At that time, Pitchess said, Zraikat said he was satisfied with the physical arrangements of Sirhan's imprisonment.

Pitchess said Sirhan has made no complaints about his treatment at the Central County Jail. He said Sirhan's appetite was good and that he is permitted to exercise in a 30-foot corridor.

Pitchess said finger, ankle and knee injuries Sirhan suffered when he was subdued

and arrested June 5 are healing satisfactorily.

Meanwhile, Los Angeles attorney Russell E. Parsons officially relieved the Public Defender's Office of the job of defending Sirhan. He signed the legal document assuming Sirhan's defense before Superior Judge Richard Schauer. Parsons said he had accepted the case without fee.

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Deportation Faced by Sirhan Kin

LOS ANGELES, June 20 (UPI)—The 19-year-old brother of Sirhan B. Sirhan, accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, is currently fighting a deportation order issued against him after he was convicted of felony narcotics charges, an immigration official disclosed today.

Munir Bishara Sirhan, known as Joe, was arrested June 10, 1966, for possession and sale of marijuana. He was tried as an adult and convicted in Superior Court of both charges on Oct. 13, 1966. On Dec. 1 of that year he was placed on five years probation with the first year to be served in county jail, court records disclosed.

But on May 25, 1967, the trial judge set aside the conviction because Sirhan was a juvenile at the time of the alleged crime and ordered him turned over to juvenile authorities, the record showed.

The deportation order was issued in 1966, but he appealed to the Board of Immigration Appeals in Washington, which only just now has begun the process of reviewing the appeal, immigration authorities indicated.

The Immigration Department's apparently contending that the decision to treat him as a juvenile should have been made before, not after, the trial.

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Brain Damage Sirhan's Defense?

TOP L.A. LAWYER PARSONS TAKES CASE

Russell E. Parsons, top Los Angeles criminal lawyer who will defend Sirhan B. Sirhan, Sen. Robert Kennedy's alleged killer, has indicated he may argue that Sirhan had suffered from brain damage.

The 74-year-old lawyer said he will have a psychiatrist examine Sirhan "from the tips of his shoes to the top of his head." Sirhan reportedly suffered injuries when he fell from a horse while employed at a race track two years ago. He collected \$2000 on a claim for injuries.

Parsons replaces Wilbur Littlefield of the Public Defender's first court appearance with the Office as Sirhan's counsel. His Jordanian will be June 28, when Sirhan is scheduled to enter a plea to murder indictment.

A. L. Wirin, attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union, who consulted several times with Sirhan, made the announcement in behalf of Parsons.

"Sirhan Sirhan signed, in my presence, a written retainer agreement retaining Attorney Russell Parsons, a member of the Los Angeles County Criminal Court Bar Association, as his counsel," Wirin said.

Immediately after signing papers dated June 12, Public Defender Richard S. Buckley and Parsons conferred with Sirhan.

"I have been interested in the case all along," Parsons said. "I'm just going to work hard and do the very best I can."

Parsons added that he would serve without fee as a public service.

The defense lawyer is a native of Los Angeles and is nationally known for his trial work. He made legal history in California as the lawyer who got the State Supreme Court to rule that evidence illegally seized by police officers cannot be used against a defendant in a criminal case.

Parsons has had wide experience as both a prosecutor and defense lawyer. He estimates he has tried about 5000 cases.

His first experience in public office was his election as County Attorney of Beaver County, Utah, in 1917. He served two two-year terms. Part of the time he also served as City Attorney for Beaver City.

He subsequently returned to Los Angeles to practice law. In the mid-30s he was one of defense counsel in the notorious case of accused wife-murderer

Robert S. "Rattlesnake" James, eventually convicted of slaying his wife by rattlesnake poison and drowning. After several years on death row, James' conviction was upheld and he was hanged.

In 1938, Parsons joined the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office as a top prosecutor assigned to special cases. He was one of the prosecutors of William G. Bonelli, then the "czar" of California's liquor law enforcement and control accused of accepting payoffs. Bonelli was freed by a court-directed verdict of acquittal and subsequently moved to Mexico.

While a prosecutor here, Parsons was the target of two gunmen who fired at him in 1940 on a street near Whittier. One bullet broke a window on the car, and another hit the engine cowling. Parsons was then participating in an inquiry of Communists and subversive elements in Los Angeles.

In 1950 he permitted his name to be entered as "The People's Candidate" in a mayoralty recall election here against then Mayor Fletcher Bowron. The recall failed.

The campaign was a bitter one, with aggravated charges by both factions. In this campaign, a civic group demanded Parsons be investigated for allegedly issuing small checks without sufficient funds many years before. The charges were thoroughly aired, but no official action was taken because of the business nature of the transactions.

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A-3 Herald-Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

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Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

62-587-A-
NOT RECORDED
128 JUL 12 1968

Parsons in recent years has devoted his time to private practice of law, both civil and criminal. He maintains offices at 205 S. Broadway.

He was born in Olive Street in the downtown area. His father, Harry Parsons, was a noted contractor and builder. His mother was Lillian Blackburn Parsons, a native of Petaluma, Sonoma County, whose family crossed the plains in a covered wagon. His parents settled here when the population of Los Angeles was only 17,000 persons.

His father was one of the builders of the Third Street Tunnel, the U.S. Grant Hotel in San

Diego and the Hotel Utah in Salt Lake City, and many other private and public buildings throughout the west.

Parsons attended the Sixteenth Street Grammar School, the Thirtieth Street and Jefferson Street Schools, Los Angeles High School, and the University of Southern California. He has been active in the Native Sons of the Golden West, Ramona Parlor; Elks Lodge 99, and Eagles Lodge, Hollywood Earle.

He is a brother of Charles Parsons, early day USC sprint star, and an uncle of Charles Parsons Jr., a sprint star of the early 1930s.

Parsons said yesterday he could not comment on the Sirhan case until he obtains a copy of a court order recently issued by Superior Judge Arthur Alarcon restricting discussion of the case.

Sirhan, 24, a native of Jordan, accused of ambushing Sen. Kennedy in the Ambassador Hotel



—Herald-Examiner Photo
RUSSELL E. PARSONS
Will Defend Sirhan Sirhan

June 12, 1968
 I hereby retain
 Russell E. Parsons, as
 my counsel, to represent
 me in my case
 Ples v. Sirhan, LA.
 Superior Court,
 No. A. 22342,
 and request that
 he be substituted
 as counsel in
 the case for
 the Public Defender.

Sirhan Sirhan

WITH THIS NOTE, SIRHAN APPROVED HIS DEFENSE ATTORNEY
 Dated June 12, note designates Russell Parsons "To represent me in my case"

shortly after midnight June 5 as the senator concluded a California primary election victory rally, is held in County Jail under the tightest security in Los Angeles history.

"I'll have another lawyer in the case with me, but I cannot give you his name at this time," Parsons told The Herald-Examiner at his office.

"Names of several lawyers were given to Sirhan, and he selected me, as well as one other attorney.

"I agreed to represent Sirhan because I feel there is a challenge as to whether this man can get a fair trial. However, I do think he will get a fair one.

"There will probably be three defense attorneys—there's room

in the case for that many. And I'll have help from my office which has five other lawyers." Asked if he expected "public abuse and threats," Parsons said: "I do not expect these things. Any case with this much emotion and public attention leaves a person in my case exposed to almost anything."

He said Michael A. McCowan, of R. Allen & Associates, will be his chief investigator in preparing Sirhan's defense. McCowan is a former Los Angeles police officer.

Parsons said yesterday it would be up to the court whether Arab lawyers would be permitted to help. But he said he would "welcome help from any-

Although four lawyers selected by the Jordanian Lawyers Association cancelled an announced trip after a one-hour meeting with Jordanian Premier Bahjat Talhouni, other Arab lawyers reportedly will be selected by the Arab Lawyers Federation.

Sirhan's father, Bishara Sirhan, has officially applied for permission to come here to assist his son.

Bishara Sirhan said his son suffered facial injuries in 1948 when an Israeli mortar exploded near him. The father also said his son had seen Arabs killed by Israeli terrorists and a woman stabbed by an Israeli dagger before the family moved to the United States.

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Brother Of Sirhan Fights Deportation

The 19-year-old brother of Sirhan B. Sirhan, accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, is fighting a deportation order issued against him after he was convicted of felony narcotics charges, an immigration official has disclosed.

Munir Bishara Sirhan, known as Joe, was arrested June 10, 1966, for possession and sale of marijuana. He was tried as an adult and convicted in Superior Court of both charges on Oct. 13, 1966. On Dec. 1 of that year he was placed on five years probation with the first year to be served in county jail, court records disclosed.

But on May 25, 1967, the judge set aside the conviction because Sirhan was a juvenile at the time of the alleged crime and ordered him turned over to the juvenile authorities, the record showed.

The deportation order was issued in 1966, but he appeared

to the board of immigration appeals in Washington, which only just now has begun the process of reviewing the appeal, immigration authorities indicated.

He based his appeal on the argument that he was a juvenile at the time and the conviction had been set aside for this reason. The Immigration Department apparently contended that the judge had no jurisdiction to issue the later orders after the disposition of the case and that the decision to treat him as a juvenile should have been made before, not after, the trial.

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Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-3 Herald-Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/20/68
Edition: Night Final
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character:

or

Classification: LA 56-156
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

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NOT RECORDED
128 JUL 12 1968

67 JUL 15 1968

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Sirhan Discussed RFK, Says Youth in Mexico

JUAREZ, Mexico (UPI) — Attorney's office at El Paso said Mexican authorities are holding the FBI was investigating the boy's claims "thoroughly" but that Mexican authorities did not take them seriously.

Boyd said the youth was arrested in Juarez when some papers he had been carrying were lost in a restaurant. Another man picked them up and turned them over to police.

The 17-year-old boy, Crespin Gonzales, a native of Ephrata, Wash., told Mexican police he talked to the accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy in a Santa Monica library. An American official said he did not believe Mexican police put much credit in the boy's story.

Juarez Police Chief Jesus Chacon quoted the boy as saying, "We came to the conclusion the Kennedys were gaining dictatorial powers by their shrewd political maneuvers, and the United States was in danger of becoming a dictator's country."

Jamie Boyd of the U.S. head back into the city.

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

A-3 Herald-Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

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Classification: LA 56-156
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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NOT RECORDED
128 JUL 12 1968

67 JUL 15 1968



—Associated Press Wirephoto
CRISPIN GONZALES IN JUAREZ, MEXICO
Youth claims talk with Sirhan over Kennedys

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

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Await Report In Juarez RFK Case

By RAMON VILLALOBOS

Norberto Salinas, Juarez federal district attorney, Wednesday was awaiting psychiatrists reports on Crispin Curiel Gonzalez, who has told Juarez police authorities of being involved in the assassination of Sen. Robert Kennedy in Los Angeles.

Three leading Juarez psychiatrists, Dr. Daniel Cortez Montoya, Dr. Gilberto Martinez and Dr. Roberto Lozano, conducted an all morning examination of the self-styled plotter in a private cell in the Juarez Jail.

Since Curiel Gonzalez' arrest Monday night, special security measures have been taken. His cell isolates him from other prisoners.

The examination took the three doctors over four hours.

They were reluctant to reveal the outcome of their talks with the 17-year-old admitted LSD and marijuana addict. In statements to police he admitted he was an addict and added that he knew he would die soon from the effects of the drugs.

The three doctors confirmed a statement Curiel Gonzalez made to them to the effect he was prepared to kill Sen. Edward Kennedy, brother of the murdered presidential candidate "if they pay me well."

The doctors said he would not reveal who the "they" were.

Dr. Cortez Montoya told newsmen that during the course of his examination, Curiel Gonzalez had told him the assassination of Sen. Robert Kennedy was not for "any political ideas, but purely for money."

Judicial Police Chief Jesus Chacon revealed Curiel Gonzalez arrived in El Paso June 3, aboard a U.S. Immigration plane and held three days in the U.S. Border Patrol detention headquarters and he was released after authorities confirmed his U.S. citizenship. He had been arrested in Los Angeles on a

vagrancy charge. Telling police there he was a native of Mexico, he was turned over to U.S. Immigration authorities for deportation.

A hitch developed in the case, when the federal district attorney said he could not deport Curiel Gonzalez to the United States because the subject had dual citizenship. A person born in the United States of parents born in Mexico has the benefits of the dual citizenship clause. Investigations revealed Curiel Gonzalez was born in the state of Washington. The town or city was not disclosed.

Judicial police also confirmed a collect call Curiel Gonzalez made to the governor of the state of Colima where his parents live. The governor in confirming the call said that a man posing as an FBI agent had informed him that Curiel Gonzalez had been killed in New York for his part in the assassination of Sen. Robert Kennedy.

Curiel Gonzalez, in his voluntary statement to police following his arrest, said he had called the governor of Colima, Pablo Garcia, from a public telephone booth on the U.S. side of the Santa Fe Street International Bridge following his release by immigration authorities.

The Juarez federal district attorney said he was in contact with the office of the attorney general to see what charges could be filed against the youth.

"This is a very difficult case to decide," Chief Chacon agreed.

Curiel Gonzalez was arrested aboard a city bus en route to Downtown Juarez, shortly after he accidentally dropped a note book and a letter in which he had written about having taken part in Sen. Kennedy's assassination.

He also has admitted closed friendship with Sirhan Sirhan, the alleged Kennedy murderer saying he had met the alleged assassin in a public library in Santa Monica, Calif.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

1A EL PASO TIMES
ELPASO, TEXAS

Date: 6/20/68
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 Author:
 Editor: W. J. HOOTEN
 Title:

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 Classification:
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 128 JUL 12 1968

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Munir Bishara Sirhan, the 19-year-old brother of Sirhan B. Sirhan, ~~accused of killing Sen. Robert F. Kennedy~~, is currently fighting a deportation order against him after he was convicted of felony narcotics charges; an immigration official disclosed.

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The Washington Post

Times Herald _____

The Washington Daily News pg 5

The Evening Star (Washington) _____

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The New Leader _____

The Wall Street Journal _____

The National Observer _____

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Date 6/20/68

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SIRHAN SIGNS — Sirhan B. Sirhan, accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, yesterday signed Russell Parsons, a prominent criminal lawyer in Los Angeles, to represent him. Mr. Parsons, who won a landmark California Supreme Court decision ruling against use of illegally seized evidence, agreed to represent Sirhan without fee.

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The Washington Post

Times Herald _____

The Washington Daily News 14

The Evening Star (Washington) _____

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Sirhan Signs a Criminal Lawyer

LOS ANGELES, June 19 (UPI)—Sirhan B. Sirhan today acquired a prominent criminal attorney to defend him against a charge of assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Russell Parsons, an attorney who won a landmark California Supreme Court ruling against use of illegally seized evidence, has agreed to represent Sirhan without fee.

A. L. Wirin, attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union, said, "Sirhan Sirhan signed, in my presence, a written retainer agreement retain-

ing Attorney Russell Parsons, a member of the Los Angeles County Court Bar Association, as his counsel." Parsons replaces the Public Defender's Office as defense counsel.

Immediately afterward, Public Defender Richard S. Buckley and Parsons conferred with Sirhan in county jail, where the defendant is held without bail under tight security.

The Jordanian Lawyers' Association has selected four of its members to help defend Sirhan and two Lebanese at-

torneys also have volunteered their services. Similar plans were reported under way in Iraq and Cairo.

Legal sources here saw the move as a possible attempt to air Arab grievances against Israel in a trial certain to receive world wide attention.

There were indications that Sirhan was pro-Arab and anti-Israel and that Kennedy may have been shot fatally last June '5 at the Ambassador Hotel here because he advocated aiding Israel.

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The Washington Post _____
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 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The National Observer _____
 People's World _____
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79 JUN 25 1968

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29 JUN 25 1968

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Flood of Arab Lawyers Willing to Help Sirhan

Attorneys From Jordan, Iraq and Elsewhere Offer to Defend Suspect in Assassination

BY JOE ALEX MORRIS JR.

Times Staff Writer

BEIRUT — A ground swell appears to be developing in Arab legal circles over the case of Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, the accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

After almost a fortnight in which the lawyers were conspicuous by their silence, the Palestinian-born Sirhan is now threatened with inundation by legal advice from his Middle Eastern compatriots. Lawyers from Jordan, Iraq and the Arab Federation of Lawyers were reported Tuesday planning to go to his defense. Sirhan has not indicated he wanted Arab or any other outside legal help so far as could be determined here. The first offer to take up his case have not yet elicited any response.

This has not prevented others from volunteering. Among the latest was Shafik Ershedat, secretary general of the Cairo-based Arab Federation of Lawyers and himself a Palestinian.

Reports from Amman

said the four Jordanian lawyers had appointed a fifth, Henri Kattan, to go to Los Angeles to sound out the situation before they decide whether to present themselves en masse to Sirhan. Another report said three Iraqi lawyers had similarly volunteered their services.

The slowness of the Arab legal community to respond to Sirhan's plight reflected the near total confusion inflicted upon Arab political ranks by the news that a Palestinian Arab had been accused of killing Kennedy.

Reactions Varied

Reactions have swung clear across the political kaleidoscope, from assertions that Sirhan's alleged deed was the act of a deranged individual and had nothing to do with the Arabs in general, to allegations that the whole thing was a Zionist plot to discredit the Arabs in American eyes.

This is now slowly jelling around the idea that Sirhan — and Kennedy —

are both victims of the Palestine tragedy, and that something of this sort was expectable if not inevitable so long as the rights of more than one million Palestinian Arabs to return to their homeland are denied them.

If the consensus of reaction holds firm on this line, greater Arab sympathy and support for Sirhan is to be expected, observers here believe.

So far, this has been carefully limited to efforts to make sure Sirhan gets a fair trial, and that his motivation for his alleged act of killing Sen. Kennedy is fully broadcast and understood.

There have been no suggestions that he will be deprived of a fair trial.

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(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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Editor: Nick B. Williams

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Submitting Office: Los Angeles

☐ Being Investigated

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145 JUL 1 1968

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Sirhan Dad Seeks U.S. OK for Trip

JERUSALEM (AP)—A spokesman for the Israeli military governor's office has confirmed that Bishara Sirhan, father of the man accused of killing Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, officially has applied for permission to go to the United States.

Plans for the elder Sirhan's trip to America were announced after he returned to Jerusalem yesterday from Amman where he made some provisional arrangements for his son's legal defense.

In Amman, the Arab Lawyers Federation said a team of five Arab lawyers would go to the United States shortly to prepare for the trial.

The statement said the Arab legal team would be headed by a prominent Beirut attorney, Henry Cattani, but Cattani said he had not been notified of the statement and that the most any Arab lawyers could do would be to assist American attorneys out of court.

"We cannot appear before an American court," Cattani said.

(In Los Angeles, however, it was the belief of members of the Public Defender's office that Arab attorneys would find it "almost impossible" to qualify to represent young Sirhan in court.)

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Miss Gandy	_____

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/19/68
Edition: Night Final
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
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Classification: LA 56-156
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

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✓ *W. J. Parsons*
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UPI-133

(SIRHAN)

LOS ANGELES--SIRHAN B. SIRHAN TODAY ACQUIRED A PROMINENT CRIMINAL ATTORNEY TO DEFEND HIM AGAINST A CHARGE OF ASSASSINATING SEN. ROBERT F. KENNEDY.

RUSSELL PARSONS, THE ATTORNEY WHO WON A LANDMARK CALIFORNIA SUPREME COURT RULING AGAINST USE OF ILLEGALLY SEIZED EVIDENCE, HAS AGREED TO REPRESENT SIRHAN WITHOUT FEE AND AS A PUBLIC SERVICE, ACCORDING TO A.L. WIRIN, ATTORNEY FOR THE AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION.

WIRIN SAID, "SIRHAN SIRHAN SIGNED, IN MY PRESENCE, A WRITTEN RETAINER AGREEMENT RETAINING ATTORNEY RUSSELL PARSONS, A MEMBER OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CRIMINAL COURT BAR ASSOCIATION AS HIS COUNSEL."

PARSONS REPLACES THE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE AS DEFENSE COUNSEL. WIRIN, A FREQUENT VISITOR TO SIRHAN'S HEAVILY GUARDED CELL IN THE MAXIMUM SECURITY MEN'S CENTRAL JAIL, SAID THAT NOW THAT SIRHAN HAD SECURED A COUNSEL OF HIS OWN CHOICE, THE ACLU'S INTEREST IN HIS CASE WAS ENDED.

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 29 JUN 21 1968

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WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176

Accused Assassin Reported at Meeting

Did Fidel Play a Role in Killing?

By VIRGINIA PREWETT



RECE, a Miami-based Cuban exile organization with a chapter in Los Angeles, has come forward to reveal a significant incident involving the alleged assassin of the late Sen. Robert Kennedy. If these revelations are not taken into the trial record, a question will always hang over the exact and specific background of the crime.

Juan Duarte, a former major in Castro's Rebel Army, who came to the U.S. in 1966 after more than a year in a Cuban prison, has revealed in Miami that on May 21 he went to a meeting sponsored by the Los Angeles Committee of the Students for a Democratic Society. It was held at 3800 Amesbury, Hollywood, said to be the home of Colombians named Robert and Raquel Leanle.

Leaflets distributed in Los Angeles had announced a speech by Paul Shinoss, identified as a San Francisco State College student recently re-

turned from Havana. All interested persons were invited to attend.

DISPUTE

Maj. Duarte said he went with RECE official Tony Fernandez and other Cubans. They disputed Shinoss' pro-Castroism and were in turn attacked as "CIA agents" by a young man whom they later identified as Sirhan Sirhan. The argument ended in the street after the meeting broke up.

Maj. Duarte also said that a few days before the assassination of Sen. Kennedy, an "under ground" paper called The Los Angeles Times Express — similar to hundreds read by young Americans — published a picture of a coffin along with one of RFK, with the question: "Why waste your vote?" Maj. Duarte called this an "anticipation" of the Senator's murder.

RECE is now calling for investigation of a report in Los Angeles that Sirhan Sirhan himself attended one of the meetings in Havana of the Afro-Asian and Latin American Solidarity Organization, called ALAPSO. A key fact here is that Castro has taken over this shadow organization from all control by Cairo.

FIRED UP?

If ALAPSO helped rouse Sirhan Sirhan, then Castro must be held responsible for pouring gas on the nationalistic fires of the young Arab immigrant.

In deciding ultimate responsibility for the crime, the U.S. faces a stern dilemma. Our leadership in the main wants to ease tensions with Russia. Moscow and Castro are squabbling, but around 15,000 Soviet troops still guarantee Castro's sway. And Cuba, whether we like it or not, is very much the immediate dynamo of the destructive and anti-democratic incitements being pumped heavily into U.S. leftist and student groups.

Castro's aim, of course, is to divide, disorient, dismay and if possible to destroy the American free system, not just Latin American stability. If Castro incitements can help spur assassinations, this gives him a new dimension that we should take seriously.

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The Washington Post

Times Herald

The Washington Daily News 21

The Evening Star (Washington)

The Sunday Star (Washington)

Daily News (New York)

Sunday News (New York)

New York Post

The New York Times

The Sun (Baltimore)

The Worker

The New Leader

The Wall Street Journal

The National Observer

People's World

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Jordan Lawyers May Defend Sirhan

Trial of Arab-Jew Hostility?

LOS ANGELES, June 19 (UPI) — Sirhan B. Sirhan may be defended against the charge of assassinating Sen. Robert F. Kennedy by lawyers from his native Jordan seeking to put Arab-Israeli relations on trial.

A Jordanian lawyers association has chosen four of its members to come here to defend Sirhan. Two Lebanese attorneys have volunteered their services and similar plans were reported under way in Iraq and the Arab Federation of Lawyers based in Cairo.

The Jordanian organization said the four members — Fuad Atallah, Ahmed El-Khail, Mohammed Berdai and Hassan Hawa — will fly to the United States "very soon" and will be joined later by other Arab lawyers.

Arab attorneys would be permitted to take over Sirhan's case if they were deemed qualified by the court and if they arranged to be associated with an attorney admitted to practice by the California Bar Association.

PROPAGANDA?

Legal sources saw the move as a possible propaganda attempt to air Arab grievances against Israel in a trial certain to gain worldwide attention.

The two Lebanese lawyers, Moussa Prince, 42, and his assistant, Abdel Hamid El-Andab, 24, last week sent a letter to the American Embassy in Beirut offering to fly here to "clarify the



—UPI Photo

Los Angeles Atty. Wilbur Littlefield has been named by the Public Defender to defend Sirhan B. Sirhan.

circumstances which surrounded Kennedy's assassination."

They asked to be kept informed of developments in the case because "the Arab people have the right to know the real motives that made Sirhan do what he did."

If the defendant is represented by Arab lawyers, the search for the "real motives" in the case could result in Sirhan being placed on the stand to describe his youth in the Jordanian sector of Jerusalem, according to some legal observers.

INSANITY PLEA LIKELY

A likely plea would be innocent by reason of insanity — specifically, Sirhan's reported hatred of Israel, and of Sen. Kennedy for his pro-Israeli statements made during the California primary.

Sirhan and six other members of his family arrived in New York, Jan. 12, 1957, a few months after the Suez crisis, a major outbreak in the series of conflicts between Israel and Arab nations.

His father, Bishara Sirhan, returned to the Middle East in 1965, and the rest of the family settled in the Los Angeles suburb of Pasadena.

The father, in an interview in Amman, Jordan, this week said he is "completely convinced" his son had not been pushed by any group to shoot Sen. Kennedy.

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The Washington Post

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The Washington Daily News *10*

The Evening Star (Washington) _____

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The Sun (Baltimore) _____

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The Wall Street Journal _____

The National Observer _____

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Date *6-19-68*

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Sirhan Tirade Against RFK Told

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Sirhan Sirhan, accused assassin of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, has been quoted by a national magazine as shouting, "Kennedy should never be President. He's just using the poor."

The magazine said a report of Sirhan's rage toward Kennedy and California School Superintendent Max Rafferty, Republican nominee for the U.S. Senate, came from a Mexican and a Puerto Rican. The story said the pair encountered Sirhan on the night of June 4 in the lobby of the Ambassador Hotel, about three hours before Kennedy was shot.

The report to Life Magazine came from Enrique Rabago, 35-year-old unemployed mechanic, and a second witness identified only as a Puerto Rican.

The article followed by less than a day a statement by gunshop owner Ben Herrick, 42, that Sirhan and two other swarthy men bought four boxes of .22 calibre shells at his San Gabriel store June 1.

The magazine said Rabago and his companion volunteered to tell about their encounter with Sirhan at 9:15 p.m., June 4.

The two witnesses told Life that Sirhan, wearing white pants and a white shirt without a tie, had just been ejected from a Rafferty victory party. Sirhan told the pair he had been refused a drink by a waitress and was tossed out when he made a fuss and contemptuously tipped \$20 "for nothing."

Rabago and the second man told Life Sirhan went into a tirade against "the rich Rafferty people who step all over the poor." Rafferty had just defeated incumbent U.S. Sen. Thomas Kuchel in the Republican primary.

Rabago said he (Rabago) nodded toward the Embassy Room, site of the main Kennedy victory celebration, and told Sirhan, "Robert Kennedy might help the poor."

The statement, according to Rabago's account to the magazine, sent Sirhan into a rage.

"Kennedy, Kennedy, he should never be President. You think he really wants to help the poor?" Sirhan was quoted as shouting in a quavering voice.

"Kennedy helps himself. He's just using the poor. Can't you see that?"

Meanwhile Herrick, owner of the Lock Stock and Barrel gunshop, said Sirhan and two others asked for armor-piercing .357 magnum ammunition at the same time they purchased the four boxes of .22 caliber shells.

"I told them we didn't have it," Herrick said of the heavier ammunition, used by the California highway patrolmen for their .38 calibre revolvers.

Herrick explained: "I don't like to sell that kind of stuff to guys like that," although he does stock the .357 shells. He said he sells them only to police.

Herrick said police told him the ammunition was traced through an invoice for the sale found in Sirhan's car near the hotel after the assassination.

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A-1 Herald Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/17/68
Edition: Night Final
Author:
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title: KENSALT

Character: 56-156
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Classification:
Submitting Office: Los Angeles
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Sirhan Railed Against RFK Only Hours Before Slaying

By DONALD FLYNN

Only hours before Sirhan Bishara Sirhan allegedly slew Sen. Robert F. Kennedy the Jordanian ranted that Kennedy was "using the poor" to get elected and "should never be President."

The 24-year-old suspect flew into a rage while discussing Kennedy with two men in the lobby of the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles about three hours before the murder, according to an article in Life magazine.



Sirhan B. Sirhan

Enrique Rabago, 35, an unemployed mechanic, and another, unidentified man, said they encountered Sirhan at about 9:15 p.m. June 4, in the lobby. Sirhan complained that he had just been tossed out of a victory party for Republican senatorial candidate Max Rafferty.

\$20 "for Nothing"

Rabago said Sirhan told of being refused a drink by a waitress at the Rafferty party, and said he contemptuously tipped her \$20 "for nothing." In the ensuing fuss, he was told to leave.

Sirhan, dressed in a white shirt, and white trousers, shouted against "the rich Rafferty people who step all over the poor."

Then Rabago said he nodded

toward the Embassy Room across the lobby where the Kennedy victory celebration was beginning and said: "Robert Kennedy might help the poor."

Voice Quavers

Sirhan, his voice quavering, seemingly in a daze, yelled furiously:

"Kennedy! Kennedy! He should never be President! You think he really wants to help the poor? Kennedy helps himself! He's just using the poor! Can't you see that?"

Rabago and the other man tried to argue with Sirhan, but the Jordanian wandered away toward the Kennedy party, still in an apparent daze.

Easily Offended, Say Ex-Employers

Los Angeles, June 16 (AP) — Two former employers of Sirhan Sirhan agree that he was courteous but proud and easily offended.

Jack Davies, Pasadena service station operator, employed Sirhan for ten months beginning in September 1964. Said Davies:

"He was a real good worker. In fact, I'd hire him again. He was very polite, courteous, attentive."

But Sirhan left because he refused to take the needling he got from a supervisor, Davies said.

From September 1967 until last March Sirhan worked for John H. Weidner at Organic-Pasadena, a health food store.

Weidner said Sirhan "wanted to be equal to you. He was a proud man with a good opinion of himself. He was what I would classify as an anarchist—his mind, his reaction to our society, our life."

"Feeling of Hate"

Weidner told Sirhan that America was a country where democratic processes were used to obtain improvements. But, said Weidner, Sirhan disagreed, saying that in America freedom does not exist. He told Weidner he was sympathetic to the Negroes.

"He would say, 'I agree with the violence,'" said Weidner. "He had this feeling of hate against society."

"But the biggest question was the Jews. Here was a real hatred for people. He said the Jewish people . . . had taken his country so he was very angry against them."

When Sirhan was arrested after the June 5 shooting of Sen. Kennedy, police said he was carrying a newspaper clipping in which Kennedy was quoted as speaking favorably of Israel.

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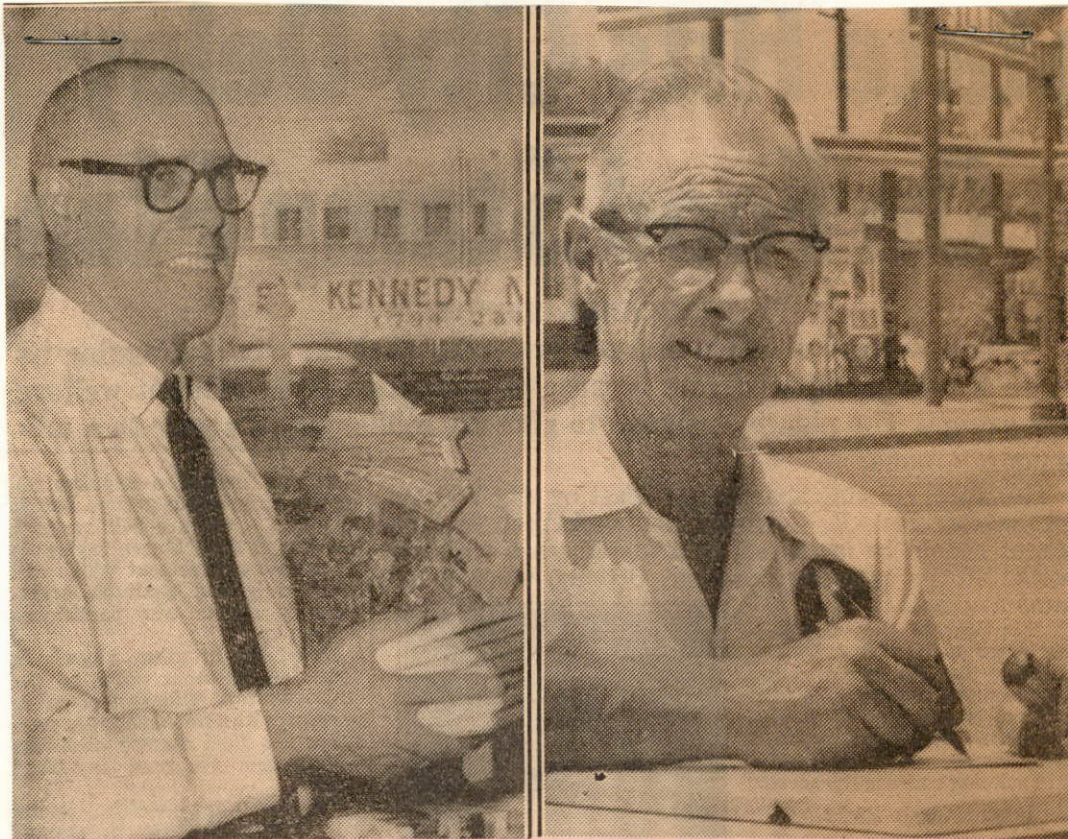
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Associated Press Wirephotos
John Weidner (left), owner of organic health food store in Pasadena, and Jack Davies, who runs a gas station, were former employers of Sirhan Sirhan.

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UPI-27

(SIRHAN)

LOS ANGELES--SIRHAN SIRHAN HAS THE AID OF A SCORE OF INVESTIGATORS IN PREPARING HIS DEFENSE AGAINST THE CHARGE OF KILLING SEN. KENNEDY.

THE 24-YEAR-OLD JORDANIAN IMMIGRANT IS REPRESENTED BY WILBUR LITTLEFIELD, 46, CHIEF TRIAL DEPUTY IN THE COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDERS OFFICE AND CONSIDERED AN OUTSTANDING TRIAL LAWYER.

LITTLEFIELD SAYS HE HAS ACCESS TO ALL 21 INVESTIGATORS ON THE STAFF OF THE DEFENDER'S OFFICE AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, THE RIGHT TO STUDY ALL POLICE RECORDS OF THE ASSASSINATION.

SIRHAN IS EXPECTED TO ENTER A PLEA OF INNOCENT BY REASON OF INSANITY JUNE 28.

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BEIRUT--THE FATHER OF THE ACCUSED ASSASSIN OF SEN. KENNEDY SUNDAY PLEADED WITH THE KENNEDY FAMILY AND THE COURTS TO BE "LENIENT AND FORGIVING."

BISHARA SIRHAN MADE HIS REMARKS AT AMMAN, JORDAN, WHERE HE HAD GONE TO WITHDRAW MONEY FROM A BANK TO PREPARE FOR A TRIP TO THE U.S. HE SAID HE BELIEVED HIS SON HAD KILLED KENNEDY AND THAT HIS MOVE WAS PROMPTED BY NATIONALIST SENTIMENT.

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Sirhan Rage Over RFK Is Reported

NEW YORK, June 16 (UPI) —Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, the accused killer of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, flew into a rage and shouted that Kennedy "should never be President" only hours before the assassination, it was reported today.

The report, published in Life magazine, came from a Mexican and a Puerto Rican who said they had encountered Sirhan on the night of June 4 in the lobby of the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles.

The magazine said the two, Enrique Rabago, 35, an unemployed mechanic, and a second unidentified witness, came forward voluntarily to tell about the encounter at 9:15 p.m. PDT, four and a half hours before Kennedy was shot.

Sirhan, wearing white pants and a white shirt without a tie, had just been thrown out of a victory party for Republican senatorial candidate Max Rafferty because, refused a drink by a waitress, he had made a fuss and contemptuously tipped her \$20 "for nothing," the magazine report said.

Describing the incident to Rabago and his companion, Sirhan went into a tirade against "the rich Rafferty people who step all over the poor," the magazine said.

But when Rabago nodded toward the embassy room on the other side of the lobby where Kennedy's victory celebration was beginning and said, "Robert Kennedy might help the poor," Sirhan flew into a rage, the article said.

"Kennedy, Kennedy, he should never be President. You think he really wants to help the poor." Sirhan reportedly shouted, his voice quavering. "Kennedy helps himself. He's just using the poor. Can't you see that?"

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Sirhan's Arab Community Fears Retaliation

By George Lardner

Washington Post Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES, June 16—Adnan Deen is keeping his gun loaded.

Manager of an Export-Import store on Hollywood Boulevard, he doesn't want to follow the Jordanian merchant shot in Chicago last week in apparent reprisal for the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

The Arabic community here has been unnerved from the moment it was disclosed that the slight, swarthy suspect arrested for the killing was Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, a 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant.

There have been only a few minor incidents. At Deen's shop, one crank started a fire in the awning and another set a lizard loose in the store.

But the apprehension remains.

Anonymity is being sought by Los Angeles area's 25,000 Arab-Americans these days. "The community's gone into hiding," says Henry Awad, president of the Lebanese-Syrian-American Society and editor of a monthly English-language newspaper here for Arab-Americans.

Sirhan's family—his mother and four brothers—have been taken into hiding, under police protection. Moved from their small frame house, shortly after the shooting, they are living in a tightly guarded private home.

The family has also felt the sting of Sirhan's arrest in other ways.

Sirhan's 29-year-old brother, Adel, had been playing an Arab musical instrument on weekends at a belly dance club, Shaker's Oasis, before the shooting. The management doesn't want to see him again. "He might get shot," reasons Club Manager Harry Shaker.

Another brother, Saidallah, 36, was to have been sworn in as a U. S. citizen the day after Kennedy's death. The U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service canceled the appointment.

ment. District Director George Rosenberg claimed that reports of "motor vehicle violations" conflicted with the requirement of "good moral character" for naturalized citizens.

The Arab-American community here is closely knit. Yet few will admit to knowing Sirhan. Those who do usually claim to have met him only once or twice, just in passing.

Yet at the same time there is widespread rationalization, even sympathy, for the murder for which Sirhan stands indicted. His "anti-Zionism" is widely shared. Time and again, it is argued that the real villain is "international Zionism" and, secondarily, Kennedy's support of jet fighters for Israel.

Sirhan does not appear to have been a member of any of the Arabic organizations in the city. In any event, not a few of the Arab-American organizations show the same sort of persecution complex so widely attributed to Sirhan. It also makes them candidates for the overtures of the far American right and white racists.

The groups include the United American Arab Congress, the American-Arab Citizens Council, the Americans (of Lebanese Syrian Ancestry) for American, and the Arabic Society of Americanists.

Formed after the lightning Israeli victory last year in the June war, the United American Arab Congress has its \$50-a-month headquarters in what the community calls "the White House" on Hollywood Boulevard.

Its general counsel, George E. Shibley, said it was formed to help raise funds for Arab refugees and to combat "support of Zionism by the American press."

Israel, in turn, is likened by the UAAC to "Nazi Germany" and "Fascist Japan." "All three claimed to be superman or God's chosen people," one UAAC broadside has proclaimed. "All three terrorized civilian populations and

claimed the lands they overran by right of conquest."

According to one report, Sirhan and several of his brothers attended meetings of the so-called "American Arabs" which was allegedly a youth auxiliary of the UAAC.

Officials of the Congress, however, say they had no youth organization and never heard of any group called the "American Arabs." Neither have other community leaders.

UAAC headquarters, in any event, are deserted these days. An official of the Lebanese-Syrian-American Society, which manages the building, said it was six months behind in its rent.

The American Arab Citizens Council was also apparently formed last year to promote "better understanding of Middle Eastern problems." It had a newsletter called "The Prophet" that devoted one is-

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Associated Press

Lloyd Hager, manager, shows targets at the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club, where suspect Sirhan is said in sworn testimony to have been seen practicing with gun hours before the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

sue to pictures of ~~banned~~ Arab children over a caption, "Auschwitz—1967 style." Council Chairman Phil Zogaib, however, says the organization is now defunct.

Zogaib has also served as chairman of the Americans (of Lebanese-Syrian Ancestry) for America, an organization headed by Dr. T. J. Toma, dentist who is also president of the Arabic Society of Americanists.

How successful the various groups have been in resisting racist and right-wing overtures is open to question. One UAAC newsletter last summer warned against "white racist groups . . . coming out in support of the Arabs" and cautioned its members against aligning themselves with "hate mongers."

Dr. Toma, has also been a prominent spokesman for John Birch Society causes. He once got into a hassle with postal officials over stamping his mail with the slogan "Save America—impeach J.F.K.—General Walker, truth and freedom, yes—one world, Godless UN Govt. & Tyranny No."

How much, if any, of this climate filtered down to Sirhan is unknown. According to some reports, he may have been active in the organization of Arab students while attending Pasadena City College, but college officials maintain there is no OAS chapter there.

Officials of the other organizations say they never noticed Sirhan at any of their meetings. He was not, it seems plain, a joiner. "I never heard of him until this incident," said Dr. Toma, "I guess he's a loner, really."

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Public Testimony This Time

Hearst Headline Service

NEW YORK—Lee Harvey Oswald was in the custody of the Dallas police from shortly after noon, Nov. 22, until he was killed by Jack Ruby about 48 hours later.

During that period he was questioned by the police, the FBI, the Secret Service and presumably by psychiatrists. What he replied to that barrage of questions has never been fully exposed. As one result of this omission, a series of books appeared casting doubt on the integrity of the subsequent Warren report.

A couple of those odd-ball authors are still lecturing here and abroad on the "untold" factors of the case. Now and then the district attorney of New Orleans bursts forth with some outrageous new charge in his continuing effort to prove that President Kennedy's death was the result of a "conspiracy."

President Kennedy was killed, I'm convinced, by Lee Harvey Oswald and Lee Harvey Oswald alone. The only question in my mind, after a great deal of study of the tragedy and talks with a lot of people involved, is whether that nut was really aiming at the president when he let go with three shots from his Carcano. He could well have been trying to take a bead on Gov. John Connally, who was riding in the seat just ahead of the President. Gov. Connally had not long before that fatal day refused to intercede in Oswald's effort to obtain an

honorable discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps, to replace the dishonorable one. Oswald had nothing against Kennedy, as far as we know. Indeed, as a pro-Castroite, he must have approved of JFK's refusal to support the Bay of Pigs invasion.

Marine Corps records indicate that Oswald was a lousy marksman.

But what he replied to the tons of questions remains obscure. Whatever he said was not deemed pertinent to the trial of his own murderer.

Sirhan Sirhan is alive today and ready for trial because of lessons learned the hard way in Dallas. With the possible exception of Nazi war criminals, no man has been more closely guarded than this nut who killed Sen. Robert Kennedy. The Dallas police showed us Oswald on the night of the assassination, as if displaying a sheep-killing wolf they had successfully run down.

Ruby, of course, was there with a bag full of sandwich

es, free tickets to his strip-tease joint, and the customary offer of his pimping services to the cops when he killed Oswald the following Sunday. There is every reason to believe Ruby honestly thought he would become an American folk hero. Why he didn't do so on the night the cops proudly showed off Oswald will never be known.

Fast work by Rosie Grier, Rafer Johnson, Jesse Unruh and L.A. police saved the skin of Sirhan Sirhan in the

immediate wake of the shooting of Robert Kennedy. There were half a dozen able-bodied bystanders outside the Ambassador Hotel who tried to get at Sirhan with obvious intent to beat the life out of him. The police had a harder time with them than they did with Sirhan.

So he was spared and the State of California will now attempt to put him to death legally.

If Ruby had missed, or never strolled by, the Oswald trial would have seen testimony delivered from the witness chair by the President's widow, by Gov. and Mrs. Connally and scores of other principals who had no reason to be subpoenaed for the Ruby trial. In the Sirhan trial, because he has been preserved for it, we probably shall have the poignant spectacle of the brave, pregnant widow suffering the additional burden of reliving the ultimate agony of her life.

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B-7 Herald Examiner
Los Angeles, Calif.

Date: 6/16/68
Edition: Final
Author: Bob Considine
Editor: Donald Goodenow
Title:

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Character:
or 56-156
Classification:
Submitting Office: LA
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2 Reported With Sirhan When He Bought Bullets

By George Lardner Jr.
Washington Post Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES, June 15—The Saturday before the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, his alleged killer, Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, walked into the Lock, Stock 'N Barrel Shop in suburban San Gabriel.

The proprietors of the gun shop, Ben and Dona Herrick, say there were two men with him.

"There were three guys, all dark and small," Herrick, 42, declared yesterday.

Clerk Larry Arnot said he waited on them.

The receipt from the sale that afternoon—\$3.99 including tax, for four boxes of .22 caliber bullets—was found in Sirhan's car near the Ambassador Hotel after the shooting.

The recollections at the gun shop built up after that.

"When I saw the (Sirhan's) picture in the paper, I had the feeling that I had seen him somewhere, but it didn't dawn on me at the time that he was the one I had sold the bullets to," Arnot said.

"A day later—or maybe it was a couple of days later, I can't remember—the owners got the information that we had sold the ammunition.

"I said then, to my employer's wife, Dona and Ben, 'By golly, I waited on that guy.' The bell rang just like that. Before that, I had half-way discharged it from my mind that I had seen this guy somewhere before."

What police make of all this is not clear. They have, inevitably, received hundreds of tips, rumors and reports that a conspiracy may have been involved. Yet days have passed and no one appears to have unearthed any close friends or associates of the 24-year-old Jordanian immigrant indicted for the slaying.

If any are found, it remains to be seen what, if anything, Sirhan told them of his interest in guns or Sen. Kennedy.

It may take months, perhaps years to sort out the facts.

At the gun shop, nestled in a shopping center with a Wild West motif, the Herricks, who said they have talked to police twice, and Arnot, who said he has not been questioned at all, were quite firm about Sirhan being accompanied by two other men.

Mrs. Herrick declared that she also remembered an earlier visit to the store, about a month and a half ago, by Sirhan—again, she said, with the same two men.

There was no sale on the first trip, she said. Mrs. Herrick said the men asked whether the shop carried armor-piercing .357 magnum ammunition such as California Highway patrolmen use for their .38-caliber revolvers.

Her husband said they asked the same question that Saturday, June 1, before buying the .22s.

"We carry it," Herrick said, "but I told them we didn't have it because I don't want to sell that kind of stuff to guys like that." Herrick said he stocks the ammunition for police officers and makes it a practice not to sell it to anyone else. "I figure they had no business having that stuff," he said.

According to the receipt that was found in Sirhan's car, two of the boxes of .22s were "mini-mags." Some gun buffs call them hollow points. They usually split off on impact.

Three days later, Sirhan was seen practicing rapid-fire shooting at the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club in Fish Canyon about 10 miles from the gun shop.

One witness, Henry A. Carreon, told the Los Angeles County Grand Jury that he and a companion, David Montellano, both noticed Sirhan "shooting very rapidly on the range with a revolver"—a .22-caliber Iver Johnson.

Sirhan, the grand jury was told, also had with him a box of "mini-mag" bullets set aside from the rest of his ammunition. A similar box was found in his car after the assassination.

In still other testimony, the Grand Jury heard Vincent Di-pierro, a 19-year-old college freshman, tell of seeing a shapely girl in a polka-dot dress standing next to Sirhan and apparently chatting, and smiling at each other, just before Kennedy was gunned down.

And at the San Gabriel Valley Gun Club yesterday, one of the habitués insisted that he, too, had seen Sirhan there—with a girl, and "another guy." He did not say when.

[A national police bulletin is still out for "the girl in the polka dot dress" in the assassination, Los Angeles authorities asserted today, according to United Press International.]

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if he remembered seeing Sirhan at the practice range, he loudly professed a determination to keep his mouth shut.

But as customers and spectators moved away, he said: "If you ask me who was here talking to me, the police or the FBI, I guess I'd have to tell you: Both of them."

He said he'd been warned that if he said anything about the case, he could get six months in jail (presumably for violating a court order restricting comment). But then he turned more loquacious.

"I know a lot more than I'm telling you—a dozen times more than you think I do," he said, adding softly:

"I saw them all together."

"You mean Sirhan?"

"Yes, him, a woman and another guy. Remember, I said t-h-e-m."

He refused to elaborate. A customer drew near and the gun club member said noisily, "I told you I can't say anything."

Lloyd Hager, manager of the National Rifle Association-sponsored gun club, said he knew of no girl or any other companions with Sirhan. As far as he could tell, he said Sirhan had been at the range only once, alone, in the early afternoon before the assassination.

"I can't even recall him being here that day," Hager said. "But he must have been because his name is on the log." Generally those who use the practice range are supposed to sign in.

Asked if there were any indications Sirhan had been at the gun club before his appearance on the eve of the assassination Hager replied: "None whatsoever."

Los Angeles police and FBI agents, however, are said to be

checking out every lead they get.

"You can imagine how many irrelevant contacts will be made," said District Attorney Evelle J. Younger, "but we're not going to ignore any of them. We know there will be people in the next 50 years who'll be saying: 'Why didn't the police do this? Why didn't the police do that?'"

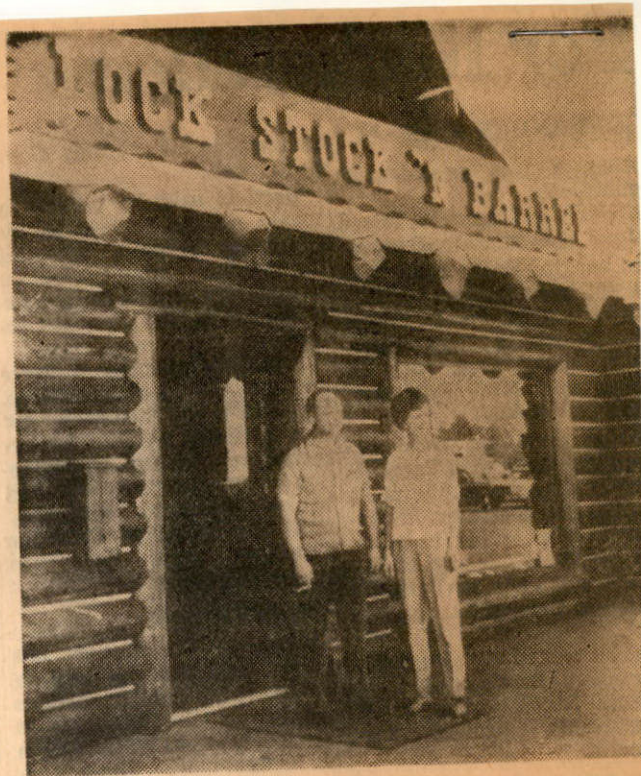
Among these other reports, investigators have reportedly been told that Sirhan and several male companions were seen, within a few days before the assassination, at some of the topless nightclubs with which Los Angeles is well endowed.

At a press conference June 6 after the autopsy, Los Angeles County Coroner Dr. Thomas T. Noguchi was widely understood as saying only two bullets had struck Sen. Kennedy. The next day, he told the Los Angeles County Grand Jury that the Senator had been struck three times, once behind the right ear and twice in the right arm-pit.

Asked about the discrepancy, Dr. Noguchi said he never actually said only "two" bullets hit Kennedy. But added that the information supplied him "by the hospital" apparently failed to take account of a final armpit wound where the bullet passed through the body completely.

Dr. Noguchi said the autopsy turned up the three wounds. But when someone at the press conference asked him about "a back wound," he said, he replied in the singular.

"At the time of the press conference," the doctor explained. "I definitely knew there were three bullets. But I did not refer to three because I was not asked that question."



Ben Herrick, 42, and wife, Dona, in front of San Gabriel gunshop which sold ammunition to man they have identified as Kennedy assassination suspect Sirhan. They recall two men accompanied Sirhan to the shop.

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**Sirhan's Father K
 May Fly to U.S.**

TAIBEH, Israeli-occupied Jordan, June 14 (AP) —Birhara Sirhan, father of the youth accused of assassinating Sen Robert F. Kennedy, is considering flying to the United States for the trial.

Sirhan, 53, said today he has applied for and received permission to go to Amman, Jordan's capital, where he planned to draw funds from a private account in an Amman bank.

He told newsmen he has not finally decided to go to the United States, but will make the decision after he speaks with his family about the case of his son. Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, 24.

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Date JUN 15 1968

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Rosicrucians

List Sirhan As Member

By John Dart
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES, June 14—Sirhan Bishara Sirhan is a recent member of the Rosicrucian Order, an occult fraternal organization which expounds a philosophy based on study of metaphysics and development of "psychic powers," it was learned today.

The native Jordanian, indicted for the murder of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, several months ago applied for membership by letter to the San Jose headquarters of the Ancient Mystical Order of Rosae Crucis (AMORC), the organization's official name.

Arthur Piepenbrink, Supreme Secretary, said that since Sirhan's original letter he "became inactive because he didn't pay his dues."

While in jail, Sirhan directed that \$20 of his confiscated money be sent to the Rosicrucians, presumably to cover the \$4-a-month dues for the last five months.

Piepenbrink said Sirhan did not join the Los Angeles AMORC lodge and "we had no correspondence with him other than the original application."

The Rosicrucian order, largest of several Rosicrucian societies, claims it dates back to 1350 B.C. during the reign of Egyptian Pharaoh Akhnaton. However, it was founded in 1909. The organization maintains, at San Jose, a university and a museum with a large collection of Egyptian, Assyrian and Babylonian artifacts.

Beth Holder, Rosicrucian public relations director, said the worldwide organization expounds "a system of metaphysical and physical philosophy that is intended to awake the dormant faculties of an individual whereby he may utilize his talents and become more aware of the world around him and lead a more useful life."

From his jail cell, Sirhan also requested two books on theosophy—which expert Boris de Zirkoff of Los Angeles said is often defined as "wisdom-religion."

Although some people are interested in both theosophy and Rosicrucianism, theosophists generally feel they are "poles apart" from Rosicrucianism because of the latter's claims to offer "mind powers" and psychic capabilities.

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The Washington Post _____
Times Herald _____ **A8**
The Washington Daily News _____
The Evening Star (Washington) _____
The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
Daily News (New York) _____
Sunday News (New York) _____
New York Post _____
The New York Times _____
The Sun (Baltimore) _____
The Worker _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____
Date _____ **JUN 15 1968**

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Concoct Pix of Polka Dot Girl

By WILLIAM FEDERICI

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 FBI agents and Los Angeles police attempted yesterday to put together a composite drawing of the girl in "the polka dot dress" wanted for questioning in the assassination of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Working with two "excellent witnesses," law enforcement artists hoped for an "end result which might bring information and an identity from the public," authorities in Los Angeles disclosed by telephone yesterday.

Work With 2 Witnesses

The artists are working with Vincent Thomas DiPierro, an Ambassador Hotel eyewitness to the killing, and Sandra Serrano, 19, a Kennedy-campaign worker, who told police a girl "with a polka dot dress came running out shouting, 'we killed Kennedy.'"

DiPierro, a part-time waiter at the hotel, and Miss Serrano, who lives in Altadena, Calif., told investigators of "the girl with the polka dot dress" who DiPierro said was standing smiling next to alleged assassin Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, 24, when Kennedy was shot three times.

2 Shown Photos

Authorities said that the two, now under protection, have been shown several photographs of "suspected women" to no avail. They also have been shown TV film clips to try to spot the girl. Both DiPierro and Miss Serrano said they would "be able to identify the girl if they saw her again."

A spokesman for the police investigating teams said yesterday: "We have multiple leads on this case and are not ignoring any of them. The possibility that the accused was not working alone is being thoroughly investigated. We are not overlooking a possible conspiracy."

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The Washington Post

Times Herald

The Washington Daily News

The Evening Star (Washington)

The Sunday Star (Washington)

Daily News (New York)

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New York Post

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Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. DeLoach _____
 Mr. Mohr _____
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 Mr. Casper _____
 Mr. Callahan _____
 Mr. Conrad _____
 Mr. Felt _____
 Mr. Gale _____
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 Mr. Tavel _____
 Mr. Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Miss Holmes _____
 Miss Gandy _____

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

State's Case Against Sirhan Good---Yorty

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—Los Angeles Mayor Sam Yorty said Friday the state has a "very, very strong case" against accused slayer Sirhan Bishara Sirhan and said criminal trials have become a game based on technicalities.

Yorty spoke to a brief news conference after a tour of HemisFair, the San Antonio world's fair.

He drew criticism last week for statements he made about a diary that supposedly belonged to Sirhan, accused of murdering Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

"Criminal trials have become a sort of a game based on technicalities instead of a search for truth," Yorty said. He said no one has challenged the truthfulness of his statements about Sirhan. He said he was certain Sirhan can get a fair trial.

He said the slaying was "witnessed, or almost witnessed," by millions of people on television.

Yorty stopped at HemisFair while on a trip to the national mayor's conference in Chicago.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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Los Angeles, Calif

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Sirhan's Mystical Bent Shown by Dues Payment, Book Order

BY JOHN DART

Times Rel

Sirhan Bishara Sirhan is a recent member of the Rosicrucian Order, a fraternal organization which expounds a philosophy based on study of metaphysics and development of psychic powers, it was learned Friday.

The native Jordanian, indicted for the murder of Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, several months ago applied for membership by letter to the San Jose headquarters of the Ancient Mystical Order of Rosae Crucis (AMORC), the organization's official name.

Arthur Piepenbrink, supreme secretary, told The Times that after Sirhan was accepted and he paid one month's dues he "became inactive because he didn't pay his dues."

While in jail, Sirhan directed that \$20 of his confiscated money be sent to the Rosicrucians, presumably to cover the \$4-a-month dues for the last five months.

Piepenbrink said Sirhan did not join the Los Angeles AMORC lodge and "we had no correspondence with him other than the original application."

One of the questions on the application was: "Do you try to practice good, citizenship and obey the laws of the country in which you live?"

Piepenbrink said Sirhan answered "yes." He said if the answer is anything other than yes, such as a qualified answer, the application is rejected.

The Rosicrucian Order, largest of several Rosicrucian societies, claims it dates back to 1350 BC during the reign of Egyptian Pharaoh Akhnaton. The organization maintains at San Jose a university and a museum with a large collection of Egyptian, Assyrian and Babylonian artifacts.

Beth Holder, Rosicrucian public relations director, said the worldwide organization expounds "a system of metaphysical and physical philosophy that is intended to awake the dormant faculties of an individual whereby he may utilize his talents and become more aware of the world around him and lead a more useful life."

Blavatsky Reports Disputed

From his jail cell, Sirhan also requested two books on theosophy — which expert Boris de Zirkoff of Los Angeles said is often defined as "wisdom-religion." The books were "Talks on 'At the Feet of the Master'" by C. W. Leadbeater and "The Secret Doctrine" by Mme. H. P. Blavatsky, founder of the theosophical movement in America.

De Zirkoff emphatically disputed two reports on network television programs that Mme. Blavatsky was the author of a manual for revolutionaries. De Zirkoff is editor of "The Collected Writings of H. P. Blavatsky," now in its 10th volume.

"She was a proponent of universal brotherhood, but she always wrote along nonpolitical lines," said De Zirkoff.

It was reported from Israeli-occupied Jordan, meanwhile, that Sirhan's father, Bishara Sirhan, has applied for and been given permission to go from his home village, Tiayeba, to Amman, Jordan's capital, possibly as the first step of a flight to Los Angeles.

He told newsmen that he planned to withdraw funds from an Amman bank. He said he wanted the travel permit "in case I should want to go anywhere." He has been considering a trip to Los Angeles, but hasn't yet made a final decision, he said.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Bishop	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
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